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Habad protests redeployment at Hebron rally
BILL HUTMAN

HABAD, a movement that helped Binyamin Netanyahu win the premiership, last night brought thousands of its supporters to Hebron to protest against the prime minister's apparent intention to redeploy the IDF in the town.

Speaker after speaker at the gathering in the plaza adjoining the Cave of Machpela called on the prime minister to hold onto Hebron.

"No one can question our right to Hebron," Rabbi Zev Slonim said. Slonim, a leading Habad rabbi, praised "the courage of the Jews of Hebron."

Another speaker appealed directly to Netanyahu, declaring that "no one has the right to give up any part of the Land of Israel."

Habad spokesman Menachem Brod said 65 buses from all around the country brought the group's supporters to Hebron for the movement's annual gathering.

Hebron was chosen as this year's location to show Habad's opposition to redeployment, Brod said.

"What Bibi apparently plans to do in Hebron is not good for the Jews," Brod said, playing on the Galilee's pro-Netanyahu election slogan. "Bibi is good for the Jews."

Dozens of policemen and border policemen patrolled the event, with security forces on alert around the Jewish community of Hebron.

"Jerusalem, Hebron and the Land of Israel were given to the People of Israel," Rabbi Nafali Roth said.

Habad leaders recently met with Netanyahu to press him not to redeploy in Hebron, but they left the meeting disappointed.



Habad supporters rally outside Hebron's Machpela Cave last night to protest against Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's plans to redeploy the IDF in the city. (Brian Hender)

Mordechai: Despite arrests, threat of suicide attacks still exists

DEFENSE Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said that despite the arrest of a number of Islamic Jihad activists, the real threat of a suicide attack still exists.

"Easing the cloister was the correct thing to do, Islamic Jihad activists have been arrested," Mordechai said. "But there are still [terror] cells. We are trying in every way possible to foil them. We can't say for certain that this threat has been neutralized, so the alerts are still in effect."

Troops have arrested 12 suspected members of Islamic Jihad in Hebron, Palestinian sources said yesterday. Nine of those detained were rounded up in a sweep of student dormitories in the town on Monday, the sources said.

Channel 2 said 17 Palestinians from Islamic militant groups were arrested in recent days on suspicion they were planning attacks against Israel.

Army Radio said three

Palestinians from the northern West Bank were arrested yesterday trying to infiltrate into Israel with an axe and several knives.

Mordechai said that despite the threats, the government decided to try to return life in Israel and the territories back to normal. Some 50,000 Palestinian laborers are allowed into Israel to work. An additional 2,500 merchants are also being allowed in from the territories.

Mordechai said the Palestinian Authority was doing a reasonable job fighting terror, but could do better.

"The Palestinians are cooperating reasonably, but I can't say they are doing their maximum. They could do more and we believe they should do more," he said. "We are demanding that they do more."

Speaking to defense reporters, Mordechai said that an agreement on Hebron was virtually wrapped up and blamed the delay on "Palestinians' stubbornness, which I don't understand."

The minister said Israel was



standing firm on the issue of being able to foil attacks on the Jewish residents of Hebron and to ensure that the Jewish community there would not be "strangled" with Palestinian-imposed restrictions on development.

Deputy Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday that the IDF had removed administrative units from Hebron but reinforced operative forces there.

The IDF also has begun carrying out hand-over patrols with the PA to familiarize them with the area, Vilna'i said.

Vilna'i, however, rejected claims that the IDF had virtually completed its redeployment in Hebron. He said the IDF is waiting for orders from politicians. He estimated the redeployment itself would take up to two days and said the changes so far had been logistical.

In Jerusalem, talks between Israel and the PA continued last night, though officials said there was no indication of a breakthrough.

US Ambassador Martin Indyk joined Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh and Yasser Abed Rabbo at the discussions in the Laromme Hotel, while another team conferred at the downtown office of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's aide Yitzhak Molcho.

Earlier in the day, Netanyahu reviewed the situation with Mordechai and Foreign Minister David Levy. Officials said there were no plans for a meeting between Netanyahu and PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Liat Collins and Batsheva Tsur contributed to this report.

Senior government official: Defense budget safe from extra cuts

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THERE will be no further cuts to the defense budget, a senior government source said yesterday, though Finance Minister Dan Meridor is considering an additional NIS 2 billion budget cut that could be put before the Knesset this month.

"An additional cut to the state budget will be very significant, but it won't include the defense budget," the senior source said.

Speaking to military reporters, the senior source said there has been an erosion in the IDF's capability and its stock of weaponry and that this has to be turned around.

"The previous government was prisoner to a conception that peace was security. This included concessions which should have actually obligated an increase in the IDF's might," the source said. "We have to stop this erosion."

Speaking to reporters after addressing yesterday's annual Treasury budget department seminar, Meridor said his ministry is assessing likely 1997 income levels, and current thinking is that revenues will be some NIS 2b. lower than the budgetary requirement.

"I am still not sure of the exact figure," Meridor said. "However, if we know enough details before the end of the debate [on the budget], we'll do it before the end of this year. If not we'll do it next year, but that's just a technical issue. I have no doubt there is a need for this additional cut to ensure we stay on the right path." (Story, Page 8)

The senior source said the NIS 800 million cut from the defense budget would be the last, stressing this does not necessarily mean the government is inclined to approve an increase for defense spending.

The comments came amid increasing calls, accompanied by warnings of war, by IDF top brass to approve a NIS 1.7b. increase in the defense budget.

But the senior government source said the Syrian navy and air force are weak and that the IDF "could take care of their armor." The main threats from Syria, he said, come from a surprise attack by Syrian commandos on the Golan Heights and from surface-to-surface missiles on Israel's heartland.

However, he said, tensions with Damascus and chances of a war with Syria have subsided.

He said Israel made efforts to expose the Syrian troop movements to eliminate the element of surprise and refrained from rushing troops to the border, a move which would have risked escalating tensions. Israel also moved to reduce tensions through diplomatic channels.

"There can still be an attempted surprise attack by the Syrians, but that is irrational and I believe the Syrians are completely sane," the senior source said. "The trend of the last month is one of calm, not escalation."

The source said the situation with Syria is now one of "treading water" until a new US secretary of state is appointed, paving the way to resume peace negotiations with Damascus.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i, appearing yesterday before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said that Operation Grapes of Wrath had proved itself.

"There is a large deployment of the IDF. Sometimes Hizbullah operates in one sector and sometimes in another," Vilna'i said. "This demands mobility of forces."

He said Hizbullah is largely abiding by the understanding reached after the operation and the Syrians are also interested in keeping the area calm.

David Harris and Liat Collins contributed to this report.

Mubarak says Azzam has confessed; Gov't denies it
BATSHEVA TSUR

SOURCES in Jerusalem last night denied Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's claim that Israeli citizen Azzam had "admitted" to spying for Israel.

"Only on Monday, Azzam denied all involvement in espionage activities during a court hearing," the sources said. "There was a representative from the Israeli embassy in the courtroom who heard him. Azzam repeated this also in an interview with Channel 2 the same evening."

Mubarak was quoted by the Middle East News Agency as saying: "The spy has confessed everything." The MENA report, carried by the Associated Press, added that the remarks were made when Mubarak inaugurated an irrigation system on the Nile.

Both Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy have said Azzam did not spy for Israel. A high-ranking government official said last Thursday that a thorough investigation revealed Azzam was not an agent for any Israeli security body.

Azzam, a mechanic at a joint Israeli-Egyptian textile plant, was arrested two weeks ago outside his Cairo hotel.

US vetoes Boutros-Ghali

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The US yesterday vetoed Boutros Boutros-Ghali for re-election as secretary-general by a 14-1 vote in the 15-member Security Council.

However, UN spokesman Sylvana Foa said the 74-year-old Egyptian would remain a candidate, setting the stage for a protracted battle in which the US has so far found itself diplomatically isolated.

Full report, Page 4

Judge: Holding-time of less than 24 hour for minors is too much work for me

JUDGE Aharon Melamed, president of the juvenile courts, created waves in the Knesset Law Committee yesterday when he said the law reducing the period that any suspect can be held without seeing a judge from 48 to 24 hours created too much work for him and his colleagues.

The committee exploded after Melamed asked it to increase the amount of time a suspect can be held without seeing a judge, saying this showed a shocking contempt for human rights on the part of a judge.

Melamed had been invited to speak to the committee about ways to make it harder for the state to arrest juveniles. He outraged MKs by saying that not only did he oppose many of their suggestions on the grounds that they would be too difficult to implement, he wanted the repeal of the 24-hour law. He said that, on this matter, he was speaking for all Magistrates Court judges.

"This is unbelievable," said Dedi Zucker (Meretz). "Even the police have accepted this. Only the court presidents do not. I consider it extremely grave that the courts should be the most conservative element [on this question]."

"Today there is not a single justice on the Supreme Court that deals with arrests in light of the legislature's instructions," put in Bar Association representative Avraham Bardugo.

"The principles are very nice, but you have to look at the implementation," Melamed retorted. "I suggest that instead of sitting on Olympus, you stick to reality."

EVELYN GORDON

"In my experience, no solution would ever be found if we always looked at 'reality,'" said Shlomo Shoham, the committee's legal advisor and a former judge. "We have to lead the way."

Yitzhak Kadman, head of the National Council for the Welfare of the Child, said minors are often physically or sexually abused in jail, and this has happened to those under "protective arrest" as well.

MKS agreed "protective arrests" must be made illegal. However, they seemed willing to consider a suggestion by State Attorney Edna Arbel to allow police to detain children in danger for a few hours.

Arbel told the committee that the Justice, Labor and Internal Security Ministries have been working for the past two years on a bill to make it harder to arrest minors, and the bill should be ready in about three months. This bill would forbid minors to be held for more than 12 hours without seeing a judge — a suggestion Melamed dismissed as unworkable. The bill also would require parents to be present at all remand hearings, and would grant the children the right to speak at such hearings as well. However, Arbel agreed with Melamed that a committee proposal to require a parole officer to be present at all remand hearings might not be practical.

Committee chairman Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) welcomed the Justice Ministry's initiative, but said the committee would also submit a private bill on issues where the two bodies did not see eye-to-eye.

One issue on which the two did agree was that it is essential to separate juveniles from adults, first-time from repeat offenders, and younger children from older children. The committee was pleased to hear that Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani has ordered the Prisons Service to begin constructing separate lock-ups for minors, though it is not clear when this will be implemented.

Kadman told the committee stories of minors who spent several days in jail for offenses such as stealing a bicycle or using a friend's credit card without permission. This is especially appalling given the horrible conditions in police lock-ups, he said.

"In my opinion, not a single minor should be arrested as long as the lock-ups look the way they do," he said, noting that he knew of one district attorney who refused to remand even boys accused of gang rape for this reason. "They aren't even suitable for an adult. They aren't even suitable for a beast."

Kadman told the committee that 3,500 to 4,500 juveniles are arrested each year, with 88 percent detained for over 12 hours and 73% for more than 24 hours. However, police representative Dep.-Cmdr. Elinor Mazoz said these figures were too high. She said only about 60% of minors are held for more than 24 hours.

Oldest human fossils with stone tools found

JUDY SIEGEL

The oldest fossil of human ancestors to be found together with stone implements and animal bones have been discovered in northern Ethiopia by American, Ethiopian and Israeli scientists who have been exploring the region since 1990.

The human fossil consists of the upper jaw of an early *Homo*, the broad genus to which modern humans belong. Previously discovered sites — all in Africa — in which hominid fossils have been found in layers that included stone tools were estimated to be no older than 1.85 million years. The latest discovery is believed to be 2.3m. years old.

On November 2, 1994, Ali Yesuf and Maumin Alahandu, local Ethiopians on the fossil-collection team, found two halves of an upper jaw on the side of a hill.

"The instant we fit the two halves together, we knew we weren't dealing with an apelike *Australopithecus*," said Prof. William Kimbel, a US scientist who was on the site at the time of the discovery and has since led the effort to examine and date the finds.

The discoveries originate from an early period about which little has been known, and so provide important information about the cultural and evolutionary development of our ancestors.

The team, headed by Kimbel of the Berkeley, California, Institute of Human Origins, includes Erella Hovers of the Hebrew University and Prof. Yoel Rak of Tel Aviv University. Other members are Ethiopians and researchers from the State University of New York-Stony Brook and the University of Washington. Their findings are to be reported in the December issue of the *Journal of Human Evolution* and were released yesterday at a press conference in Addis Ababa.

The fossil, chopping tools, stone flakes and mammal-bone fragments were found on the surface of a barren hill near a dry streambed in the Hadar Formation, a 200-meter-thick sequence of rocks and the home of the famous "Lucy" human ancestor found several years ago.

The volcanic-rock fragments were analyzed by the single-crystal laser-fusion method of potassium-argon dating, which yields very precise ages for volcanic rocks and has revolutionized the science of dating events in evolutionary history.

"Lucy," dating back some three million years, is of the species *Australopithecus afarensis* and had an apelike appearance. "Lucy" was not known to have made stone tools. The new fossil discovery is believed to be some 700,000 years younger than "Lucy" and much more closely resembles modern man, but it is still somewhat different from fossil discoveries of the *Homo* species of later periods.

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Detained border policemen may face criminal charges

BILL HUTMAN

THE two border policemen filmed beating Palestinians were detained yesterday morning by officers from the Justice Ministry's Police Investigations Division and may face criminal charges in addition to disciplinary action.

The border policemen, David Ben Abu, 20, and Tzahi Shmaya, 19, were questioned at the Division's Jerusalem headquarters, and were to be held overnight. A Justice Ministry spokeswoman said the division would decide today whether to remand them.

The detention of the two border policemen followed the sharp outcry sparked by the Channel 1 showing Monday night of film footage of them abusing several Palestinian workers they had stopped near the A-Ram junction in north Jerusalem.

The policemen were seen kicking and hitting the workers, who were apparently trying to enter the country without permits, and another Palestinian who tried to come to their aid.

Border Police brass expressed outrage at the policemen's behavior and Border Police chief Yisrael Sadan ordered their suspension from active duty on Monday night. However, senior Border Police sources noted that the incident was not isolated.

However, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said yesterday that he regards the incident as an isolated one.

"The Border Police is an excellent force and are to be admired," he said. "Even if we witness another incident of violence committed by border policemen today, I would still say that this is out of the ordinary behavior, and is not a phenomenon. However this violent behavior must be condemned and those involved ousted from the force."

The policemen's behavior, he added, belongs to "another culture and we must not tolerate it."

"They have tainted the whole image of the border police force," Kahalani said.

Several months ago, Sadan ordered a review of the conditions border policemen in the territories serve under, aimed at finding ways to ease the pressures on them that lead to such incidents shown on television Monday night, which apparently occurred five weeks ago.

One of the aspects of the review was to determine ways to have more experienced border policemen operating in the territories, with the understanding in the force that younger policemen are more likely to lose control. The two suspects are reportedly aged 19 and

20. Sadan yesterday morning met with the suspects' company to speak to its members about the seriousness of the incident, the border police spokesman said. Officers have been instructed to discuss the incident with their units in an effort to ensure it is not repeated, the spokesman said.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu condemned the actions of the two border policemen filmed hitting and abusing Arabs. "We cannot accept this. It is unpardonable and it flies in the face of the very strict standards of conduct which are kept by the overwhelming majority of Israeli soldiers and police and we cannot accept such people in our security apparatus," Netanyahu said yesterday after the Likud faction meeting. "I have been assured by the Police Minister [Kahalani] that there is an investigation, that they will be put on trial and that the full weight of the law will be applied against these people. They have no place in our security apparatus."

Netanyahu severely chastised the two border policemen who were filmed beating Palestinians and said he expects them to be punished.

"They behaved with irresponsibility toward the Palestinians. Holding weapons demands a level of morality which is accepted by all IDF soldiers and Border Police. These two or three soldiers who behaved as they did violated a norm accepted by all IDF soldiers. I am not prepared to accept this," Netanyahu later told military reporters.

Deputy IDF Chief-of-Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i touched on the issue at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. He noted that the border police do not fall under the IDF's jurisdiction and did not want to elaborate on the issue. He said that individual commanders are responsible for the behavior of the soldiers or border police under them. He added the IDF carried out information and counseling programs for troops serving in the territories.

Finance Minister Dan Meridor called the attack "dreadful."

"It is disgusting. It is our duty as a government to see to it that not only these people are brought to justice, but that the people who are in contact with the Arabs at crossing points will be re-educated how to treat these people respectfully," he said. "I am confident that we'll do all we can to see that it does not recur."

Liatt Collins, Arieh O'Sullivan and Raine Marcus contributed to this report.



Soldiers drag off a Palestinian protester near Efrat yesterday, as some two dozen Palestinians tried to prevent bulldozers from excavating an expansion of the settlement. Palestinian legislative council member Bishara Daoud wrestled with police officers during the incident on the Wad al-Rahal hilltop between Efrat and the village of Artas. No injuries were reported in the scuffle. (AP)

PM: Full Hebron access is a must

LIAT COLLINS

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told Likud MKs yesterday the government stands firm on its demand the IDF has the right of entry into all parts of Hebron.

Netanyahu said this is because "we are trying to reduce the risks. Obviously there is a struggle, otherwise the agreement would have been made. If the objectives we set ourselves are reached, there will be an agreement," he said, according to an official briefing.

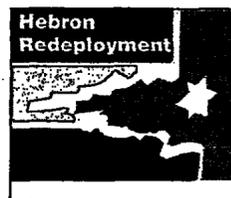
The prime minister reiterated that the Palestinians are stalling, because they believe an agreement will tilt the international balance of public opinion in Israel's favor.

He said Israel insists on reciprocity, as well as clauses distancing Palestinian-held arms from the Jewish area and providing for joint patrols.

He said the Palestinians do not feel they have received anything, "despite their intense efforts." He said propaganda against the government helps the Left and the Arab side, and that the government does not always handle it as it should.

Netanyahu said the government had inherited two bad legacies: the Oslo Accords and the budget deficit. "If we don't cut between NIS 6 billion and NIS 7 billion, it will collapse," Netanyahu said.

Science and Technology Minister Ze'ev Begin said, "I have insisted and continue to insist that security considerations could be used by the government to get Israel out of the Oslo Accords."



Hebron Redevelopment

He said the Likud, which "in its election campaign claimed that the accords were disastrous, had no reason to change this basic conclusion."

Begin said Hebron would give the Palestinians a stronghold and a precedent for future concessions. He called on the faction to "stand by the government and strengthen it."

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon repeated his call for complete Israeli civilian and military control over Hebron's Jewish area.

Sharon said history has shown that Israel will not keep access to Jewish holy sites in the territories, including Hebron, if Jews do not live there. He said Israel should inform the Palestinian Authority that it cannot commit to fulfilling all parts of the Oslo Accords and said no government has the right to give up "the Temple Mount, the Cave of the Patriarchs, Rachel's Tomb, Shilo, and other sites."

State defends PM's right to initial Hebron pact before cabinet approval

EVELYN GORDON

THERE is nothing wrong with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu initialing the Hebron agreement before bringing it to the cabinet, since this is the way all agreements with the Palestinians have been handled, the state told the High Court of Justice yesterday.

It was responding to a petition by MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher), which the court is to hear this morning. Kleiner argued that while the cabinet had authorized Netanyahu, Foreign Minister David Levy and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to negotiate the agreement, initialing it would exceed their mandate, and would unfairly

limit the cabinet's ability to make changes in the agreement later.

Uzi Fogelman, head of the Justice Ministry's High Court division, argued that the petition should be rejected out of hand for procedural reasons: The fact that Kleiner had waited until the last minute to file it, and the fact that he had not attempted to get redress from the government before petitioning the court.

However, he said, the petition also deserves to be rejected on legal grounds, because there is nothing in the cabinet decision

that prevents the negotiating team from initialing the agreement. The cabinet decision states only that the agreement must be approved by the full cabinet. This is no barrier to its first being initialled by the prime minister, as this is merely a preliminary stage, Fogelman said.

Furthermore, he said, there is precedent for this procedure. All previous agreements with the Palestinians were either signed or initialled by prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, and sometimes foreign minister Shimon Peres as well, before being brought to the cabinet for approval.

Mordechai to discuss weapons sales with Britain

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

DEFENSE Minister Yitzhak Mordechai files to Britain today for a four-day visit in which he intends on marketing the Israeli-made, air-to-surface POPEYE missile and other arms, including unmanned air vehicles.

After meeting with his British counterpart Michael Portillo, Mordechai will hold discussions with James Arbutnot, minister for defence procurement. Israeli defence officials said Mordechai will try to interest the British in the POPEYE, produced by Rafael.

The highly-accurate POPEYE missile was based on the combat experience of the IAF and has been operational since the late 1980s. Turkey has reportedly agreed to purchase 30 POPEYEs from Israel and Jane's Defense Weekly said the two countries have also agreed to co-produce a further 120 in an arrangement between Rafael and the Turkish Mikes company. The deal is reportedly worth \$30 million.

Report: German Finance Ministry will offer DM 20m. a year to Nazi victims in E. Europe

MARILYN HENRY NEW YORK

THE German Finance Ministry is reportedly prepared to offer DM 20 million a year in compensation to Nazi victims in Eastern Europe. Opposition members of the Bundestag want double that amount - which, in any event, is still too small to register on the German federal budget.

The German government, enmeshed in serious budget squabbling, would agree to offer compensation of DM 20m. a year for four years if the opposition drops its demands for monthly pensions for Jewish and non-Jewish Nazi victims in Eastern Europe, according to a letter written by opposition members to leaders of the Bundestag.

However, "we are quite unable to accept this," the opposition members wrote in the letter, dated November 15.

"We do not see how DM 20 million in the 1997 financial year for all remaining Eastern European states taken together could permit a level of benefits that we can morally justify," said the letter signed by Winfried Nachtwei, Volker Beck and Helmut Lippelt.

Survivors in Israel and the West may qualify for monthly pensions of DM 500 under the so-called "Article II Fund." Nazi victims in Eastern Europe, however, have been excluded from receiving pen-

sions. The opposition members called on the government to reach an agreement with the Claims Conference to extend Article II compensation to survivors in Eastern Europe and to "put an end to the absurdity of their unequal treatment compared with persecuted Jews in the West," the letter said.

There are an estimated 18,000 to 20,000 Nazi victims in Eastern Europe, of which 13,000 are Jews who meet the compensation eligibility requirements, the letter said. The opposition members suggested that these victims be given monthly pensions of between DM 200 and DM 250. The difference from the pensions in the West would reflect the lower standards of living in the East. The annual cost to the federal German budget would be about DM 48m, according to the letter.

These amounts are too small to register as a percentage in the 1997 proposed federal budget, which is just shy of \$300 billion, according to news reports.

Since August 1995, Article II - which is named for a provision in the German reunification treaty - has paid monthly pensions to more than 20,000 survivors, half of whom live in Israel. The Article II pensions are unrelated to those directly sent by Germany to individuals.

Shahak scoffs at reports of run for Labor leadership

MICHAEL YUDELMAN and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

CHIEF of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak dismissed as "nonsense" reports in *Ma'ariv* that the Labor Party is seeking to recruit him for its leadership. Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, relating to the report, said Shahak has his complete confidence and backing.

"The chief of general staff behaves and acts with professionalism and he is much appreciated by all of us, certainly myself and the prime minister," Mordechai said. "He has my full confidence. He is chief of general staff of all of the army. He is an apolitical chief of general staff."

Israel Radio quoted Shahak as calling the story "the drivel of politicians and journalists."

"Shahak deals only with IDF matters and totally rejects attempts to drag him into politics," an IDF Spokesman statement said.

Meanwhile, Labor MK Uzi Baran said yesterday that MK Ehud Barak, who is running for Labor's leadership, has better chances than the other candidates of being elected. Baran also dismissed the notion that Shahak is being considered as a candidate.

Tension is rising in Labor in anticipation of next Thursday's central committee meeting, which is to set the dates for the party's convention and leadership showdown. The rival camps of Labor leader Shimon Peres and Barak are bracing for their first power struggle at the committee.

"Barak is the dominant candidate at this stage," Baran said in an interview with Channel 2's Rafi Reshef. "He has better chances than others of being party leader. But I don't know what the situation will be like in four years' time."

Baran added that he also does not know whether Barak would have a majority at the central committee meeting for his proposal to have the leadership primaries at

the same time as the convention. Peres and his supporters want to have the convention next spring, as the party constitution requires, and hold the leadership showdown two months later, in June or July.

Barak is collecting the 350 signatures of central committee members required to have a secret ballot at the committee meeting, so that members can vote freely.

Others in Labor yesterday denied the report of a bid to field Shahak against Barak. Barak's people said Shahak's name was "bandied about by all kinds of party hacks who think they're serving Peres's interests, but in fact are causing him damage. They won't accept reality, so they pull names out of their hat - Shahak, Beilin, Baran - in an effort to sow dispute. Raising Shahak's name is not only unrealistic, but will only cause Peres harm, after the affair of his meeting with Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor."

MK Yossi Beilin said he was "shocked to hear of the report about Shahak. It could only have been released by someone who wants to harm him. He is not a political figure and this could only damage him and his position."

Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zvili said it was a mistake to involve Shahak in the political fray. He said the power struggles in Labor are "natural for a party which is going to change its leadership generation. We must not forget that Peres received the support of almost 50% of the nation. It's hard to tell a leader who feels in his prime - and who is among the only ones who could get the state out of the extremely difficult predicament it has plunged into, and get the peace process out of the quagmire - that 'You've finished your historical duty; move aside.' On the other hand, Peres has announced that he is not running for the leadership. Everything is open."

MKs snipe at Suissa's measures to ease gun licensing

LIAT COLLINS

INTERIOR Minister Eli Suissa found himself under attack yesterday for approving measures easing gun licensing procedures. When the minister addressed the Knesset Interior Committee, nearly all the MKs present opposed the measures. The notable exceptions were committee chairman Salah Tarif (Labor) and Avraham Stern (National Religious Party).

Suissa noted he had decided to make 20 the minimum age for license holders instead of 21; to lower the minimum military rank which entitles a reserve soldier to carry civilian arms from captain to lieutenant; to allow soldiers who served in elite combat units to have licenses; and to let serving soldiers from the rank of second lieutenant have weapons even if they do not meet the age criterion if recommended by a lieutenant colonel or above.

He also decided to reduce the period a license is valid from five years to three.

Suissa said that, in accepting the recommendations of the Cohen Report on licensing regulations, he sees no reason to reduce the number of private weapons. He repeatedly stressed that more licensed arms holders are needed to counter terrorism.

"I see no reason why a soldier in Lebanon who fights terrorists cannot be able to fight a terrorist in Jerusalem," he said.

When MKs Tamar Gozansky (Hadash), Avraham Poraz and Walid Sadek (both Meretz) said the weapons could also be used for killing women in domestic violence, Tarif replied, "If someone wants to kill his wife, he doesn't need a gun."

Suissa said he is prepared to consider barring someone who has a record of threatening his wife from receiving a gun license. A Health Ministry representative noted the problem of people who hold gun licenses and become incapacitated; for example, those who suffer gradual blindness and are not asked to give up their weapons.

MK Benny Elon (Moledet) opposed easing licensing, noting that he had failed to hit a target at a firing range.

MK Ra'anana Cohen (Labor) said that, in light of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, there should be stricter restrictions on gun licensing.

A police representative said the police constantly monitor licenses to check that no holder had been convicted of a criminal offense.

Representatives of women's groups also voiced opposition to increasing the numbers of weapons accessible, saying this increases the chances of violent attacks on women.

Mordechai, Shahor discuss unauthorized meetings

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

MAJ.-GEN. Oren Shahor, who was suspended from running civilian negotiations with the Palestinians, will have to wait until Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai returns from a four-day visit to Britain to learn of his fate.

Shahor and Mordechai met last night to discuss the unauthorized meetings Shahor, government coordinator of activities in the territories, had with opposition leaders while heading the negotiations on civilian issues with the Palestinians.

Following his suspension, Shahor drafted a letter outlining his meetings with the Labor Party leadership. Mordechai said the temporary suspension was only until an inquiry was completed,

but sources close to Shahor said no inquiry was ever begun.

Mordechai's spokesman, Avi Beniyahu, confirmed the two had met, adding only that they agreed to meet again. Mordechai later departed for Britain.

Shahor has admitted to holding seven meetings with opposition leader Shimon Peres, but insists they were on a friendly basis and has denied he passed on secret information.

Still, the affair has dealt a severe blow to Mordechai's confidence in the general, who is slated to end his position in February. Last week Shahor met with President Ezer Weizman, at the president's request, and sought his support in the matter.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rights activist: Israel wouldn't let me travel
Dr. Eyal Sarraj, a prominent Gaza human-rights activist, says he has been barred from travelling to a conference in Oslo because the Israeli authorities reportedly consider him a security threat. Sarraj said this was reported to him by the Palestinian Authority. When he called Israeli officials they said they had not received his application, which he said was handed to the PA to be faxed. Sarraj, a psychiatrist, heads the Gaza Community Mental Health Program, and is also commissioner-general of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights. Sarraj, who also holds British citizenship, was to address a conference at Oslo University on "Citizenship and State in the Middle East." *Jon Immanuel*

Haifa Histadrut workers declare strike
Employees of the Histadrut's Haifa and district branch declared a strike yesterday to protest demands by the union's leadership to reduce the number of staff. The workers said they would strike from today until Histadrut secretary-general Amir Peretz agrees to meet with them and engage in serious negotiations over the proposed cutbacks. The decision was taken at a stormy meeting of the workers after they were informed that Peretz had called for firing dozens of workers. The number of employees has already been cut from 280 two years ago to around 150. A senior Histadrut official is to visit Haifa today to try to negotiate a settlement. *David Rudge*

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Gene Sandretto will speak on "Outer Peace - Inner Peace."

Lecture
Root & Branch: Islam Study Group Meeting
Peace Process Or Peace Process? A Debate between Moshe Kohn, columnist, The Jerusalem Post, and Rabbi Paul Lederman
The Israel Center, Thursday, Nov. 21, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. NIS/1015. *guzman*

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Rahel Dayan's mother says daughter dropped charges because of threats

DAVID RUDGE

POLICE intend to question Tsomet MK Haim Dayan as soon as possible in connection with allegations that he beat his wife at their Migdal Ha'emek home on Saturday.

The time and place for the interview will be coordinated with Dayan, police sources said. It was expected that the necessary procedures would be completed soon.

Dayan's wife Rahel lodged a complaint with police in Migdal Ha'emek on Saturday that she had been beaten by her husband during an argument at their home.

Even though she withdrew the complaint the following day, police are required to investigate cases of alleged family violence.

Rahel's mother, Jacqueline Dadon, claimed yesterday in an interview on Israel Radio's morning talk show "It's All Talk" that her daughter withdrew the complaint because Dayan had threatened her.

"Rahel maintains it was for the sake of the children. For the sake of truth, it wasn't because of the children. Rahel was almost certainly frightened of him and he probably threatened her," Dadon charged. She said that the couple's relationship had been very strained for the past three months and that MK Dayan did beat his wife on Saturday.

Rahel Dayan went to Afula's Ha'emek Hospital on Saturday and received treatment in its emergency ward for what hospital sources described as relatively minor injuries, including bruises on her neck, legs, and other parts of her body.

After withdrawing the complaint, Rahel Dayan went to stay with her husband in Jerusalem and they announced their apparent reconciliation in a joint interview on Channel 2.

MK Dayan, who is deputy Knesset speaker and a former policeman, gave his wife a kiss that appeared to be somewhat reluctantly received, and maintained that they were making a new start. Rahel Dayan, for her part, said she had agreed to give her husband and their marriage a second chance. The couple has four children.

"I saw them on the television and how he hugged her and kissed and I can only hope that it was real - that this picture was not a lie because what I understand is that



Tsomet MK Haim Dayan apologizes to his wife Rahel on Channel 2 on Monday night. (Channel 2)

he did it in order to ward off the media," Dadon said.

"For three months while there was a dispute between them, all the family, friends, neighbors and rabbis tried to get them to make peace. He rejected all appeals, saying he wanted a divorce.

"Rahel was pregnant [during this period] and because of all the pressure and anxiety she had a miscarriage. A neighbor called him to tell him. He didn't react. He didn't come and wasn't with her at the time [of the miscarriage].

"Suddenly after the blows, he sent his brother to take Ruchaleh to the hotel [in Jerusalem]," she said.

Dadon said Dayan had tried to evade the question of whether he actually beat his wife, because of his public position.

"He did beat her. There were signs blows on her body and the fact is that there's a medical report," she said.

Dadon said that according to her daughter's version of events, the argument on Saturday stemmed from an ongoing row after MK Dayan cut off the telephone at their home.

"She was alone with the four children at home with no telephone. Her brother helped her to buy a cellular phone. The argument afterwards, when he came home on Friday, was over the cellular phone," Dadon said.

She maintained, according to what her daughter had told her, that Dayan, was very angry and Rahel called for the help of neighbors.

"They tried to calm things down, but he didn't want to hear. He didn't calm down and the blows started," Dadon said.

Netanyahu calls for mandatory sentences for domestic violence

LIAT COLLINS

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu strongly criticized the judiciary for its "sometimes ludicrously lenient sentencing" of violent men, during a speech to the Knesset yesterday, which the house had devoted to discussing domestic violence.

Netanyahu also declared the creation of a state authority on the status of women to coordinate actions among the different groups and ministries dealing with women's issues.

Knesset committee meetings and plenum discussions focussed on the subject of abused women. MK Haim Dayan (Tsomet), accused of beating his wife on Saturday, was absent in person, although his name cropped up in discussions in the corridors and cafeterias.

Netanyahu stated his support for the idea of minimum sentences for violent offenders, an idea that has met with opposition among much of the judiciary.

"I think we have run out of patience with the derogatory attitude which is expressed towards the victims in unjustifiable sentencing. I categorically intend to demand the judicial system in Israel adapt to the norms the public wants to determine," he said.

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi announced the establishment of a public commission chaired by Supreme Court Justice Eliezer Goldberg to examine the issue of minimum sentences for domestic and sexual violence.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai (Shas) said he would support creating centers for abusive

men where they would undergo psychological counseling like that at drug rehabilitation centers.

Three bills were discussed in the plenum calling for better deterrence and stricter punishments, including increasing the period an allegedly abusive partner can be barred from his family.

Earlier in the day, the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women held a special meeting with a large number of guests to mark the occasion.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon said he would help further any legislation against domestic violence and would not apply the quotas on private members bills.

Committee chairwoman Yael Dayan (Labor) said 17 women had been murdered by their partners or relatives in 1996. She noted that unlike the trend abroad, in Israel most murdered women are killed by relatives, their husbands or partners, and not in street violence.

She stressed the need for action against men who abuse their wives mentally, even if they are not physically violent, saying this is a first stage. She also praised the voluntary organizations which deal with women's issues.

President's wife Reuma Weizman called for better educational programs and hostels for abusive men. Sara Netanyahu called for a fight against all types of violence, not just domestic violence, and greater awareness. Ludmilla Tichon, the speaker's wife, called for greater follow-up and help for women who have been abused.

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Dayan accuses ITV news editor of extortion

MK Haim Dayan (Tsomet) has written a complaint to Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, accusing Israel Television news editor Rafik Halabi of trying to blackmail him into giving Channel 1 an interview together with his wife.

Dayan, whose wife accused him over the weekend of beating her, wrote to Lieberman as the Prime Minister's Office is responsible for the state-run channel.

In his letter Dayan said Halabi had asked him for the interview, but when he refused on the grounds that his wife did not agree to it, Halabi attacked him "with rudeness and an angry tone." Dayan said Halabi threatened to interview "anyone who wanted to get at me if I didn't agree to be interviewed."

Dayan said that such threats and attempts to blackmail him into appearing "borders on the criminal." He said he would file a police complaint against Halabi and stressed he himself had not been questioned yet by the police and that his wife had withdrawn her complaint.

Halabi responded last night by calling Dayan's allegations "science fiction. He's apparently just trying to divert attention from what he did to his wife," said the news editor.

Meanwhile, five MKs wrote to Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon yesterday asking that Dayan no longer preside over plenum sessions as

Newsline

with Orit Earon-Shoval

Orit Earon-Shoval is assistant director of the Glickman Family Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Domestic Violence.

Might any man be violent toward his wife?

There's nothing in a man's physical appearance that can tell you he's abusive at home. A man can function very well as a lawyer or director of a company and be very violent at home. Many abusive men have witnessed violence between their parents or suffered it themselves as children. Life with a tyrannical parent is also abusive.

Ironically, a man who resolves domestic conflict with force is weak - he suffers from poor self-image. The outside world imposes sanctions for violent behavior and he knows he may lose something by it. But he sees his home as his own territory where he can do what he wants.

How do abusive men control their wives? Does domestic violence always involve physical abuse?

Physical violence and sexual violence - forced sexual relations with one's wife - are crimes punishable by law. But there is also verbal violence, constant harping and humiliation. Control of the money gives him a lot of power, too. She may earn as much as he does, but if she doesn't have enough money to go out, her house becomes a prison.

Where there is physical violence, the other types of abuse usually exist too. But if a woman says her husband is tyrannical and that she lives in constant fear, we regard her situation as being as dangerous as that of a woman whose husband threatens her with a knife. Today the police take all forms of domestic violence seriously.

Isn't it paradoxical that a man can be so out of control at home and in perfect control at work?

When a man "loses control" and smashes things at home, he destroys only the things to which his wife has some emotional attachment. He never breaks the TV, because then he won't be able to watch the sports program. So he's never totally out of control.

What makes a violent man come for treatment?

He never comes of his own accord. He will come only if his wife has complained to the police, if she has obtained a court order barring him from the home, if she has started divorce proceedings, or if she has left home and disappeared. That's why we urge women to turn to the police. True, some 20 percent of violent men can't learn new ways. These include psychopaths and the mentally ill. But it's possible to help the remaining 80 percent. Esther Hecht

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US vetoes second UN term for Boutros-Ghali

THE US yesterday vetoed Boutros-Ghali's bid for a second term as UN secretary-general. The Security Council vote was 14-1. Boutros-Ghali had refused to withdraw his candidacy, even though the US had been threatening a veto for months. "This is just the opening round," UN spokesman Sylvana Foa said yesterday. "He's in it until the Security Council makes a final decision."

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

Security Council vote, saying, "Israel is not obliged to take a position" at this time. The secretary-general, a Coptic Christian with a Jewish wife, was the only high-ranking Egyptian to accompany President Anwar Sadat to Jerusalem in 1977. Although the US offended many of its allies when it began its campaign last summer against Boutros-Ghali, it was not clear what the impact of the veto would be on Washington's relations with Cairo. "The Americans and Egyptians told us that they don't see this as a bilateral issue," said a high-ranking Israeli source at the UN. "The two countries said they were careful that this not develop into a bilateral crisis."

Boutros-Ghali, he would be the first secretary-general denied a second term - although there have been contentious votes to reinstall a predecessor. African nations have insisted that their continent deserves two terms in the post, as has been the tradition. It is expected to take weeks to find a consensus candidate as a replacement, and the US was said to be in favor of a selection formula weighted in favor of African candidates. The president of the Security Council, President Nugroho Wisnumurti of Indonesia, said he would ask African ambassadors to submit names of alternative African candidates before scheduling another vote. Technically, under the UN charter, a simple majority of the 185-member General Assembly could override the Security Council and continue Boutros-Ghali's tenure after his current term ends on December 31.

Channel Tunnel blaze puts eight in hospital

News agencies

CALAIS - Eight people were taken to hospital after fire broke out on a train carrying trucks through the Channel Tunnel, the first big accident since the opening of the Anglo-French link two years ago, officials said yesterday. Seventy fire-fighters from Britain and France, in special breathing suits, put out the blaze aboard the England-bound freight train after an all-night battle, a first test of systems designed to counter everything from earthquakes to terrorists. The 34 truck drivers and crew were evacuated from toxic fumes after a blaze apparently broke out in a truck one-third of the way through the 50-kilometer trip from Coquelles, France, to Folkestone, England. It was not immediately clear what caused the fire. There were reports that hazardous material was being transported on the freight shuttle, but Eurotunnel identified it as polystyrene plastic and said the material was not connected to the fire. Eight people were taken to hospital, two of them in serious condition including the train driver.

Pope meets Castro, papal trip to Cuba is planned

News agencies

VATICAN CITY - Pope John Paul II accepted Cuban President Fidel Castro's invitation to visit his communist island next year, during a historic meeting yesterday between Cold War rivals. "Holy Father, I hope to see you in Cuba soon," chief Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls quoted Castro as telling the Pope at the end of a 35-minute meeting in the Pontiff's frescoed private study at the Vatican palace. The Polish-born Pope, one of the key influences on the fall of communism in eastern Europe, responded: "Thank you, my blessings on the Cuban people." The Pope and Castro talked privately in Spanish during the audience, after the veteran revolutionary arrived at the Vatican under some of the heaviest security ever seen for a visiting head of state. "President Fidel Castro renewed an invitation to the Holy Father to visit Cuba, specifically during next year, 1997," Navarro-Valls told reporters after the audience. The pope has agreed to go and "the only thing missing is the date in 1997," Navarro-Valls said. Vatican officials said the Pope's acceptance of the invitation implies that the Cuban government has acquiesced to the usual conditions for papal trips - that the pope can travel anywhere and meet with anyone he wants to. Cuba, one of the world's last communist states, is the only Spanish-speaking country in Latin America which the Pope has not visited. He is due to travel to Brazil next October, when a Cuba visit could be added. "Holy Father, this is a great honor for me," Castro, who was schooled by the Jesuits as a child, told the Pope as they met on the threshold of the papal study. His visit, though billed as private, had all the trappings of an official state visit to the Vatican, including a 25-minute tour of St. Peter's Basilica, Christendom's largest church. Navarro-Valls said most of the audience dealt with the role of the Roman Catholic Church in Cuba, where relations with the state have been sometimes frosty. "They examined questions con-



Cuban President Fidel Castro shakes hands with Pope John Paul II during a private audience at the Vatican yesterday. (Reuters)

cerning the normalization of the conditions of existence of the Church in Cuba and in general the role of believers in Cuban national life," the spokesman said. Shortly after Castro took control in 1959, Cuba was declared a socialist state. Some 350 Catholic schools were nationalized and more than 100 priests expelled. Freedom of worship and religious instruction are limited to church premises. The restrictions on the Church now are similar to those in place in the Soviet Union and parts of eastern Europe until the collapse of the Iron Curtain. Navarro-Valls said Castro discussed more political issues, such as "the development of Cuban society" and Cuba's position in the international community, at a separate 45-minute meeting with Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Angelo Sodano.

The phrasing was an apparent reference to calls for democracy in Cuba and the end to the 34-year-old US embargo against the Caribbean island, which the Vatican has condemned several times. The issue of the US embargo on Cuba did not come up in the discussions, according to Navarro-Valls. "The position of the Holy See is so clear, there was no need to elaborate on it," he said, noting that the Pope had opened the World Food Summit in Rome last week condemning the use of economic and food embargoes. Navarro-Valls refused to discuss whether the issue of human rights was raised by the pope. All media access for the meeting, the Pope's most significant since he received then Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in December 1989, was cancelled at an hour's notice.

Open Letter to Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel

Dear Sir,

Being a person with deep respect for the French state and its institutions and love and respect for the French people, I am duty bound to express my view. The recent visit of President Chirac to Israel should be considered as a great service to the people of Israel.

President Chirac was good enough to refer, as an example, to the present state of peace between Germany and France. Every Israeli should study the history of Alsace which was a battleground for two centuries.

The sacrifice that France was willing to make to maintain its dominance over this territory and to keep the border with Germany as far east as possible from the center of power in Paris is clearly illustrated by the monuments in every French city and village listing the names of the millions of Frenchmen who gave their lives protecting the interest of France.

The lesson is clear: Every nation defines its borders with centuries of wars. Lasting peace is possible only between nations sharing common values for the respect of democracy and freedom.

You and all Israelis should remember that it was President Chirac who in just the last twenty four months resumed the French nuclear testing on its Polynesian Island. Against all international disapproval, he pursued the interest of France and served notice to all possible hostile powers who dream of blackmailing France that France will not depend on other nations to protect its interest. In simple terms it is stated that France has the power and the will to defend itself and if need be, shall go to hell or heaven together with its adversaries.

His actions and his pronouncements are an admirable example of his pursuit of the interest of France which Israel should emulate.

The lessons and example of President Chirac should be interpreted by simply stating: "Don't do as I say...but do as I do".

President Chirac is the first French statesman who had the courage to admit openly that yes, there were Frenchmen and members of the wartime French governments who participated in the deportation of Jewish citizens. We should remember that it was the French people and their devotion to human values who frustrated the Gestapo and their own government to save 73% of the Jewish population of France and an unbelievable 84% of the children. We all should be grateful for their heroism and certainly I am, I had the good fortune to marry one.

If those faint-hearted tell you that what is possible for France is not possible for Israel, they should be reminded of the admirable achievement of the people of Israel in economic and military fields over the last fifty years - how they built a prosperous nation of 5,000,000 - admired and envied by many nations.

In today's world, numbers do not represent power. Power is knowledge and determination and the will to use it in the preservation of national interest.

Ultimately the future of Israel will be determined by the will and the fortitude of the people of Israel.

Mr. Prime Minister, don't let hostile opinions deter your policy of protecting the people of Israel and remember that every nation's foreign policy is directed at the preservation of its interest and not altruistic motivation.

When lectures are given to the State of Israel on the rights of all faiths in Jerusalem, remind them that you are the only power in Jerusalem who respects this principle. Ask them where they were in 1948 when the Legions of Jordan destroyed the synagogues in East Jerusalem, expelled its Jewish inhabitants and prevented Jews from praying at the holy site. Where were they in 1929 when the Jewish population of Hebron literally was exterminated and expelled and their temples turned into stables and they were prevented from praying at the burial grounds of their patriarchs?

The rights of the people of Israel to dwell, work and pray in security in Samaria, Judea or the Golan, wherever, in Jerusalem or Hebron, are not the pursuit of the veneration of graves like some would want us to believe but the pursuit of a safe national homeland for its children and the coming generations.

As an example of the history of France and all other nations eloquently demonstrate, nation building is sometimes a dirty job and fortunate are the children of the nations whose forefathers had the fortitude and the willingness to pay the price and the sacrifice to secure a safe homeland for their children and future generations.

I was born in Czechoslovakia. In my youth I had the fortune and the benefit of this wonderful democracy. I also had the personal experience of the tragic consequence of the Munich Peace Accord imposed on us.

Whenever you are under great pressure and feel the tribulation under the weight of your responsibility, remember the saying of Benes, our last President, after the war he expressed his feeling of guilt many times by stating "I feel guilty. I should have never given in to the pressures of England and France to accept the Munich Peace Accord. Anything that would have happened by refusing it could not have been worse than the tragedy befallen on our people."

History teaches us that Peace Accords do not secure borders, only secured borders guarantee peace.

Dear Prime Minister, the world is sick and tired of wailing Jews but it has the infinite goodwill and respect for the fighting Jews to secure a state of their own on their ancestral homeland.

May you have the strength and the wisdom to guide your people through these difficult times in their history.

Respectfully yours,

Alexandre Raab
Goodwood, Ontario
Canada

November 19, 1996

Palestinian given 12 years for 1977 hijacking

HAMBURG (Reuters) - A German court sentenced a Palestinian woman to 12 years in jail yesterday for her part in the 1977 hijacking of a Lufthansa passenger jet to Somalia and the murder of its pilot. Souhaila Andrawes, 43, is the only survivor of four Palestinians who hijacked the German airline's plane. The hijacking of the verdict had to be interrupted when she broke down sobbing after the presiding judge found her guilty of murder, attempted murder and extortion. The prosecution had asked for a 12-year sentence, rejecting Andrawes's assertion that she was not responsible for shooting the pilot as it was the gang leader who pulled the trigger. The group had hijacked the aircraft to back demands by German Red Army Faction guerrillas for the release of 11 of its members from jail during the notorious so-called "German autumn" of left-wing extremist violence. Andrawes had been convicted in Somalia for the hijacking and sentenced to 20 years in jail, but was released after a year and went

home to Beirut. She moved to Norway in 1991 under a false name and was extradited to Germany last year after her identity became known, leaving her husband and daughter behind in Oslo. Andrawes, who has said she would like to serve her term in Norway, may serve her 12-year prison term in a Norwegian jail with approval from the German court that sentenced her. "The convict may apply to be transferred to Norway if she wants to," a Norwegian Justice Ministry spokesman said. "If Germany approves of it, we will not raise any objections." Early in the seven-month trial Andrawes told the court how she took up the Palestinian cause after witnessing an Israeli bombardment of a Palestinian village in the mid-1970s. But in a closing statement last week, she called the hijacking a "crass and repulsive act" which could not be justified. At the time the jet was commandeered in October 1977, RAF guerrillas were holding German industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer in a bid to get 11 of their

colleagues freed from jail. The hijackers backed that demand and also called for the release of two Palestinians jailed in Istanbul and a \$15 million ransom. When their demands were not met, they shot pilot Jurgen Schumann in the head during a forced stopover in Aden. A five-day ordeal for the remaining 86 hostages ended in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, the plane's sixth stop, when West German GSG-9 commandos stormed the aircraft. They killed all the hijackers except Andrawes, who was carried out of the plane on a stretcher making a victory sign. Hours later, their bid for freedom failed, three of the jailed members of the RAF committed suicide in their cells in Germany. Schleyer was killed the same day, and his body dumped in eastern France. Andrawes gave prosecutors a lead in their bid to clear up one of the last mysteries of the RAF period by implicating Monika Haas, an alleged RAF guerrilla accused of taking part in Schleyer's murder and kidnaping as well as aiding the hijacking. Haas is now on trial in a court in Frankfurt.

US won't send troops to Zaire

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The US has tentatively decided not to send troops to Zaire and will instead provide military cargo planes to help fly humanitarian aid to refugees streaming home to Rwanda, the Pentagon said yesterday. "At one point, it looked like we needed a security component" to protect the distribution of aid to refugees in Goma, Zaire, Defense Department spokesman Ken Bacon said. "Now it looks like we won't." Instead, Bacon said, the US military already is setting up an air bridge to Kigali in Rwanda and will help fly in food and other supplies for distribution within Rwanda by the UN and other aid groups. US Air Force teams were already being moved to Entebbe, Uganda, and Kigali to set up a relay, he said. President Bill Clinton agreed last week to send about 1,000 troops to Goma as part of an international military force under UN auspices. The American troops were to help secure the Goma airport and set up a safe corridor for refugees to return to nearby Rwanda. Bacon said the movement of tens of thousands of refugees back to Rwanda in recent days had sharply reduced - and probably ended - the need for an armed security force.

Report: Britain knew Jews were targeted for atrocities as early as 1941

NEW YORK (AP) - The British knew as early as mid-1941 - more than a year earlier than previously acknowledged - that Jews were being systematically slaughtered by the Nazis, *The New York Times* reported yesterday. Citing intelligence documents made public in Washington, *The Times* reported that in the summer of 1941, British code breakers detected Nazi transmissions from the Ukraine and Belarus that revealed the genocide. The messages were stark: "July 18 - 1,153 Jewish looters shot"; August 27 - "Regiment South shot 914 Jews"; the special action staff with police battalion 320 shot 4,200 Jews; August 31 - "2,200 Jews shot." Many historians believe the messages signified the beginning of the Holocaust. The British interceptors, after being kept secret for more than 50 years, have only been made public in recent days by the National Security Agency, *The Times* said. "What is perfectly clear is that British intelligence had absolutely definite information, not about all of Europe, but certainly about occupied parts of the Soviet Union," said Professor Richard

Breitman of American University in Washington. Breitman was among those who pushed for declassification of the NSA documents. In all, he and others have used the Freedom of Information Act to request the release of 1.3 million wartime documents by the NSA. *The Times* said the intelligence agency released the documents to the National Archives. Breitman said the newly released documents, combined with earlier British research, establish that the British knew Jews were being targeted for atrocities as early as September 1941, more than a year before Britain or the US have publicly acknowledged knowing the plight of European Jews. By late 1941, "it was perfectly obvious" to the British "that the Nazis were executing every Jew they could lay their hands on," Breitman said. It is unclear whether the British shared this information with the US, *The Times* said, although intelligence generally was shared during World War II. The US did not enter the war until December 1941.

UN finds fault with Sudan's probe of slavery

EVELYN LEOPOLD

PROBES by Sudanese groups into slavery and other human rights abuses glossed over available data and shed little light on the alleged horrors, according to a UN report released over the weekend.

Gaspar Biro of Hungary, the special UN human rights rapporteur for the Sudan, said he found it encouraging that the government had appointed committees to investigate abuses and had opened a center for traumatized children in Khartoum.

But he said many answers he received to queries were incomplete and did not adequately deal with his earlier reports of killings, deportations, abductions, looting and enforced mass displacements against civilians by all sides in the country's long-running civil war.

"The investigation of alleged cases of disappearances as well as other previously reported violations and abuses taking place in the context of the armed conflict in southern Sudan and the Nuba mountains, cannot be considered by the international community as being conducted in a satisfactory manner," he said.

The Khartoum government has been battling the rebel southern-based Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) for the past 13 years. More than a million people have died in the conflict since Christian and animist rebels took up arms for greater autonomy from the Moslem, Arabized north.

Biro made his fourth trip to the country in August after being banned for two years on charges

that he insulted Islam. He spent that visit mainly talking to government panels and groups set up to explore human rights and slavery.

Last summer the Khartoum government said it was "deeply concerned" about allegations of slavery and would investigate.

A group traveled south in August to look into the alleged disappearance of 256 people from Totar after the army took control of the village in 1995. They found 33 people who had left the town but said they had done so voluntarily, their possessions having been looted by the SPLA.

The group, made up of jurists from Sudan's Special Investigation Committee, did inform Biro that many Nuba people were working in the households of military officers but said they were there "on a voluntary basis."

But Biro said his own and other reports indicated that the Sudanese army and local militia it backs had been ordered to collect women, children and the elderly and to take them to areas controlled by the government.

In Geneva on Friday, the Christian Solidarity International group said the slave trade was increasing and that tens of thousands of children had been abducted in raids permitted by the government. The group said that one of its officials, John Eibner, in October had managed to buy the freedom of 58 slaves, who told him they were forced to assume a Moslem identity and were often beaten. (Reuters)

Egypt has set its next target

ANALYSIS
PINHAS INBARI

AT the Cairo Economic Conference last week, Egypt succeeded in achieving its main target: To emphasize its pivotal role in the Middle East at the expense of Israel.

Egypt tried to exclude Israel from the regional economic enterprises, and to limit it only to the bilateral tracks.

This is why Egypt manifested a chilly attitude towards the Israeli politicians who came to seek a political role for Israel, but smiled at the Israeli businessmen who came to invest directly in Egypt without seeking a regional role in the economy of the Middle East.

At the same time, we may notice the nature of the Egyptian enterprises that were presented to the conference. The areas that Egypt is primarily interested in developing are Upper Egypt and

the Western Desert.

This was a placatory signal about the future intentions of Egypt: namely to pursue economic policy in order to underscore its political role as a Middle East superpower, to conceal latent threats of war.

Those threats, however, were bigger a few years ago when Egypt presented economic development programs to the World Bank, that focused on Sinai. Under heavy pressures from the American side, Egypt withdrew its plan to settle the peninsula adjacent to the borders with Israel with millions of Egyptian peasants re-settled in the Sinai from the overcrowded Nile Valley.

Such an economic development plan threatened the stability of Sinai as a buffer zone with Israel - which is the core of the security aspect of the Camp

David agreements.

This economic plan was also to indicate that the main Egyptian drive in its Middle Eastern politics was towards the East, the Mashreq, that is to say Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Palestine and Israel.

This was not welcomed by either Israel nor the Arab countries, except for the Palestinian Authority - which is now the most pro-Egyptian actor in the Middle East.

Changing the economic plans embodies the beginning of changing the political interests, towards Sudan, which is adjacent to Upper Egypt, and Libya, near the Western Desert.

For now Egypt still tries to play the pivotal role in the Mashreq -

that's why it gives prominence to its relations with the Palestinian Authority.

But once the development programs Egypt presented to the conference begin to take shape, its interest in the Palestinians will decrease.

Egypt will become a more African and Maghrib-oriented state, leaving the Palestinians to handle their relations with their Israeli and Jordanian neighbors alone.

As for now, Egypt is Syria's main ally in the area, and this alliance is going to continue for some time, but the emphasis Egypt is going to give to the Upper Egypt and the Western Desert will, in the long run, affect its relations with Syria as well.

The beginning of this development started three years ago at the first Middle East Economic

Conference in Casablanca.

According to a recent lecture given by Hani al-Hasan, one of the PNA heads, at the Center for Palestinian Research and Studies in Nablus, during the Casablanca Conference the USA convened a security summit between themselves, Israel and Turkey.

Egypt was denied entrance to that meeting, and Cairo's efforts to establish its predominance in the area stemmed from the fear that Turkey may replace it as the pivotal Moslem country.

Turkey became the joint enemy of Cairo and Damascus. But, as Egypt decided to concentrate on economic enterprises that will lead it to ultimately withdraw from the Mashreq, Syria will be left alone to deal with the Israeli and the Turkish challenges.

The question remaining is, how many crises are still ahead of us until this reality materializes?



King Hussein of Jordan inspects Beduin guards of honor upon his arrival at parliament for the first meeting after its suspension over the summer during bread riots. (Reuters)

Lebanon's double-billing misery: Pay for electricity, then pay again

RODEINA KENAAN

PAYING the monthly bills is painful anywhere. In Beirut, it's twice as bad.

As Lebanon recovers from decades of war and disruption, the government is again charging regularly for water, electricity and phone services - even if it can't always provide them.

Entrepreneurs are stepping in to fill the gap, and residents yearning for normal life are footing the bill.

"I have a telephone at home but since it rained, it's not working," said resident Helen Jabra. "The only reason I have a cellular phone is because I cannot rely on my home phone."

Since two companies set up cellular-phone networks last year, 185,000 customers have signed up, most in Beirut where a third of Lebanon's three million people live. It costs \$500 to get hooked up, plus \$500 to \$900 for the phone, and then come the monthly bills.

Many people also depend on

private generators when city electricity fails. The average cost per household is about \$100 monthly for both services.

Jabra's home, which she shares with her businessman husband and two daughters, is also connected to a private water source for \$50 a month. That's in addition to the average \$7 a month for city water. "It's nice to have constant running water," said Jabra. "I have never complained about how much I have to pay for it."

Since electricity, water, and trash-collection services are billed like a tax, residents have no choice but to pay the government for them, even if they don't work. As for phones, many residents keep paying government bills just to keep the lines, which often take years to install.

The luxury of private services isn't available to all. The minimum wage in Lebanon is \$300,000 (\$200) monthly. The average monthly salary is probably \$300 to \$400, though more exact figures are unavailable.

Still, the private companies attract customers sick of haphazard municipal services and no services at all during the the 1975-90 civil war.

Then, water was regularly cut, electricity was rationed to six hours daily, and garbage piled up in street bins until angry residents set it afire to get rid of the stench.

Prime Minister Rafik Hariri's reconstruction plan, launched in 1992, has earmarked \$2 billion to improve public services. Under the plan, roads and sidewalks are being rebuilt, traffic lights

installed, pipes laid and cables connected.

By December 31, some 600,000 new telephone lines are scheduled to be available throughout Lebanon, and the Telecommunications Ministry promises more than a million lines by the end of 1997.

Until then, companies like the United Business Co. will have a booming market.

The company, which picks up garbage at people's houses instead of the street bins used by the city's collectors, has signed up 5,000 clients in six months. The monthly fee is \$13, in addition to \$7 per month each household must pay the city. The company is expanding to suburban towns. "We're collecting garbage from homes because the municipalities don't," said company accountant Pierre al-Mir. "We're doing a service that is lacking, and people are happy." (AP)



Iran's answer to Barbie? A doll called Sara, dressed in the traditional modest garb of Islam, is displayed at the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Adults in Teheran. She was created for the purpose of resisting western-style dolls. (AP)

Algeria seeks ways to feed its people

ALGERIA, which boasts an improving economy, is looking into ways of ensuring its people receive basic essentials, Trade Minister Bakhti Belaib said earlier this month.

"Organizing the supply to markets of basic essentials forms one of the priorities at the present moment," he told representatives of the General Union of Traders and Algerian Artisans.

He also promised to draw up a list of imported basic essentials. But a local education group said children in its area had no drinking water, electricity or heating in their schools.

Algeria is the world's biggest importer of hard wheat and imports huge quantities of sugar. Total annual spending on importing basic food essentials runs at around \$2.5 billion.

The North African country's cabinet said in September that imports of basic foods had been cut by 29 percent in the past year - in part because of a better harvest, but also because of "the contraction of [Algerians'] purchasing power."

Algeria has also for years suffered from gangs buying up subsidized basic essentials like flour and sugar and then smuggling them out of the country, leaving many of its

29 million people facing either shortages or high black-market prices.

Many subsidies have now been lifted or the amount reduced, but smuggling has continued.

Finance Minister Abdelkrim Harchaoui said 12,000 tons of perished foodstuffs had been seized by customs in the first half of this year.

He said, however, there had been a "clear improvement" in the situation at the frontiers through which were smuggled huge quantities of subsidized products - sugar, milk, edible oil and semolina. (Reuters)

Turkey seizes heroin worth \$41m.

TURKISH security forces have seized heroin worth more than \$40 million in two drug raids and one consignment was found in dried dung, the state-run Anatolian news agency said on Monday.

Five people were detained in connection with the seizure of 195 kg of the drug, estimated to be worth three trillion Turkish lira (\$30 million), from a house in southeastern Hakkari province on Sunday.

Gendarmes raided the house in Yuksekova after a tip-off and found the heroin hidden in dried dung, the agency said.

It said the seized drugs were to be taken to the eastern province of Van.

In Van, a further 74 kg of heroin worth \$11.4 million was seized. Turkey is a major transit point for heroin brought in from Asia for shipment to western Europe. In 1995, Turkish security forces seized 3.4 tonnes of heroin, more than fifth of the worldwide haul.

The parliament in Ankara last week passed a law aimed at curbing money laundering as part of the country's fight against drug smuggling. (Reuters)

Egyptians find tombs of six princes

EGYPTIAN archaeologists have found the tombs of six Old Kingdom princes at the Nile Delta site of Tell Basta, an ancient provincial capital best known for its mummified-cat cemeteries.

The tombs contain parts of a human mummy and some of the gold foil from the case which covered it, the Supreme Council for Antiquities said in a statement on Monday. Other finds include three offering tables, a fine headdress made of marble and three false doors, one of them inscribed with the name of Ithi, apparently one of the princes, it said. False doors are a traditional feature of Pharaonic burials.

Ithi had administrative and funerary titles well known from the Old Kingdom, which lasted from about 2600 to 2180 BCE.

The site, known in ancient times as Per Bastet after the cat goddess Bastet, lies 65 km northeast of Cairo, near the modern town of Zagazig. The council said the archaeologists were a joint mission from the council and Zagazig University. They have been working at the site for four months. (Reuters)



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Teheran trade-offs

DETECTING the change in Israel's approach toward Iran is a little like solving the mystery of the dog that did not bark—it is more a matter of what has not been said than an overt change in policy.

Since his election, Binyamin Netanyahu has struck a different tone. Gone are the characterizations implying that Islamic fundamentalism is the heir to the former Soviet Union's role as chief enemy of the West.

Even more striking, a few weeks ago the prime minister reportedly sent messages through third parties to both Iran and Syria asking for their help in preventing attacks by the Islamic Jihad.

All of this is made more remarkable by the fact that Netanyahu built an international reputation before his election as an expert on terrorism in general, and state-supported terrorism in particular.

Netanyahu's main theme in those years was that terrorism does not occur in a vacuum; that most terrorism would dry up if the states that sponsored it were deterred or prevented from doing so.

In contrast, the US and Israel have historically taken a more aggressive approach, responding to terrorism militarily and with tough economic sanctions against offending nations.

Lately, there have been signs that the United States may also soften slightly its approach toward Iran. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau said in Dubai last month that the US was "open to dialogue with Iran."

What is unclear at this point is whether the subtle softening of the American and Israeli approaches toward Iran reflects any change in Iranian behavior, or simply an admission that the tougher approach has reached its limits.

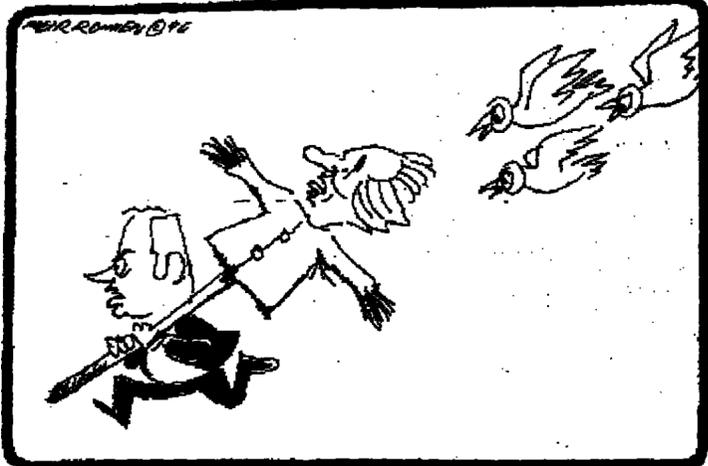
Those looking for a change in the winds blowing from Teheran might point to the recent statement by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Vaezi that Iran would help find missing Israeli airman Ron Arad, since this was "a humanitarian matter."

The hard fact is that Iran, according to those who track its behavior daily, has not lessened its support for terror or its relentless race to acquire weapons of mass destruction for a single moment.

Without a systematic and sustained change in Iranian policy, there is no reason for the West to loosen the noose on Teheran. While the economic wall around Iran has gaping holes in it, there is no doubt that sanctions have taken some toll on the Iranian economy.

But the prospect of dialogue can also legitimately be used as a carrot, within a policy composed mostly of sticks. The key to winning the war against terrorism is a united front against terrorist states, as Netanyahu has often observed.

But the prospect of dialogue can also legitimately be used as a carrot, within a policy composed mostly of sticks. The key to winning the war against terrorism is a united front against terrorist states, as Netanyahu has often observed.



The Hebron lifeboat

IN the old film classic Lifeboat Spencer Tracy plays a captain who escapes his sinking ship on a small lifeboat together with some of his luckier voyagers.

The number of people latched onto the raft exceeds the limit, and it is feared that if some are not forced loose everyone might go under.

Tracy faces the ultimate crucible: He has to choose who will be thrown overboard to certain death, and who will remain in the boat with a better chance of staying alive.

Many different arguments are being put forward in defense of the government's decision to complete the previously-agreed redeployment from Hebron. Some are less convincing than others.

With minor variations, the argument goes like this: "If we try and stop Oslo now by keeping Hebron we'll lose everything, but if we give them Hebron we'll be able to hold onto all the rest."

This line of reasoning is not new. Pundits who pondered Menachem Begin's magnanimity in Camp David came to the conclusion that the reason he agreed to give all of the Sinai to Egypt was in order to hold onto Judea and Samaria.

That of course didn't work. The Camp David accords were the first time an Israeli government recognized the "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

Those rights were not in Albuquerque, and it was only a matter of time before the intifada (gradually, Madrid (minimally) and Oslo (maximally) placed those rights firmly in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, and Jerusalem.

Yehiel Leiter

Giving up the Sinai didn't strengthen our hold on Judea, Samaria and Gaza, it weakened it. Giving up Gaza didn't solidify our presence in Judea and Samaria, it froze it.

Giving up the rest of Judea, Samaria and Gaza will not secure the Golan. Giving up the Golan will not save Jerusalem.

And redividing Jerusalem will not Tyrants see nobility as weakness. Dictators view kindness as indolence. That's the problem

ensure the survival of what will be left of Israel on the coastal plain.

Quite the opposite. To tyrants, nobility is weakness, and kindness to dictators indolence. They are both the worst provocations. They will only evoke more demands in the "phased plan," the process of dismembering Israel.

It might be argued that the analogy is not a good one. Tracy after all had to decide about human life. Netanyahu just about land. Land for life.

But that is precisely the point. At some juncture down the road

we will have to desist from further self-imposed dissection. We will have nothing left to barter away in order to protect something else.

Then the cataclysm will be unavoidable. War will be upon us when we are most vulnerable.

Having stripped ourselves of our national and natural resources the cost in human life will, God forbid, be maximal.

By then it will be too late to realize that had we held on to Hebron gradual surrender would have been stopped and lives saved.

If, as some argue, a multitude of reasons make it too late to stop the backward march at Hebron, now is the time to say no to further redeployment.

If we do not the ruptures in our national ship will break into gaping holes and we—right, left and center—will need a lifeboat big enough to hold us all.

This isn't the movies and Binyamin Netanyahu is our real-life captain. Israel's majority believes he can plug the leaks and steer our ship to safe shores. He has, indeed, proven his ability in the past to face great adversity and overcome.

Now, before proceeding further on our stormy quest for peace with security, he must choose to do the same. What he does, he won't be alone.

The writer is executive director of the foreign desk of the Yeshiva Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza and Chairman of the One Israel Fund.

Out of line

HELEN MOTRO

COOLING your heels at the supermarket checkout counter, inching up to the security table in the airport, holding a burnt-out fuse or fan or vacuum to wait your turn at the electrician's, you're always aware of the breath of the fellow right in back of you.

He is edging closer, brushing your jacket, forcing you to take one step and then another away from him, touching the person in front of you. Body contact with someone is unavoidable.

The horrors of standing on line in Israel are a long-standing joke. People from Western countries exclaim in exasperation, "Don't they see that if only they were patient their turn would come too, and things would be more bearable all round?"

But the longer I am here the longer I perceive the logic behind the pushing.

Standing on line is for the rich, for those who believe they are part of a smooth, orderly social system. In a new country where everything is up for grabs—land, jobs, money, social status—there's not a minute to waste in the scramble to find a niche. To tarry is to risk being trampled on.

There's a certain logic behind Israelis' abhorrence of waiting patiently for their turn

To someone with few external props of self-respect, elbowing his way first up the bus steps and getting to choose the best single seat, spreading his bundles over as much of the overhead rack as he can—is this a shot in the arm.

To those fresh out of a system of death and insufficiency it makes good sense to grab while you can: The bread may really run out, the ticket window is likely to slam shut, the bus doors may close in your face.

Waiting your turn belies a faith in the orderliness of events and resources. To the refugee and the new immigrant it may be eminently reasonable to lack that faith.

THE LEVEL of one's patience stands in inverse proportion to one's time in the country.

A sojourn abroad may restore acceptance of the inevitability of waiting one's turn. But after a fortnight back here impatience returns like second nature. And it's catching.

At the bank it isn't unusual for the fellow next in line to tap you on the shoulder, whisper urgently, "I'm next after you," and dash away to accomplish some other task as you snake along like a sucker.

You find yourself his unwilling agent, warning away newcomers and forced to act as his character witness when he returns, arranging his papers, to discover an usuper claiming his place. Ask her! he cries pointing his finger at you. "She knows I was here first!"

Not that long ago in a busy suburban Tel Aviv post office stainless steel line dividers stood unused while clumps of fidgeting customers swarmed in front of each teller, tapping their feet and fanning their faces conspicuously with letters, notices, bills waiting to be paid.

Confused, I called out, "Is there a single line here, or many?" A sweating man turned to look at me and shot out disdainfully from the corner of his mouth, "Lady, how long have you been in this country?"

But in that post office, like in other public offices, dividers are now being used.

And when I discovered that the women's toilet at the Philharmonic now has a single line which splits off to feed into the next available stall I recognized that progress was indeed in the offing.

Yet old ways die hard. A shiny automatic machine has been installed at the entrance to the telephone company. It blocks the path of people rushing in and dutifully dispenses impartial numbered slips. But somehow those numbers only reinforce the customer's anxiety.

Hawkeyes on lookout are experts at body language. No clerk need ever call out "Next!" or keep track of waiting numbers; nervous customers do his job for him.

The next jumpy petitioner is already thrusting his slip into the clerk's face before the last one turns his back.

Exiting the phone company I added my slip to the discarded pile. A number, I realized sadly, does not make a line.

Then, keys in hand, I strode off rapidly in the direction of my car, impatient to be first out of the parking lot.

The writer is a lawyer and freelance writer living in Kar Shmarusha.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ECONOMIC UNION

Sir, - Before Mr. Benizri's outburst, I had never heard of Gil Kopatch, nor had any other member of my family. For that matter, none of our friends had called to rave about the show. We are not big fans of shows that offer mediocrity and a set formula.

After all the fuss MK Benizri made, and the subsequent to-do in the media, how could we miss the following episode?

I can see it all now: Israelis who haven't touched the Bible since the day before the matriculation examination pulled out their dusty Bibles and sentled down to see what Kopatch had to say about the week's Torah portion. So, what was so terrible about his interpretation? The Torah is applicable to all times and all occasions, so updating the language does not seem like something shameful.

Think about it! If the Bible appeared as a new book today, can you picture the publicity releases! "First-time author

THE KOPATH FUSS

Sir, - Prime Minister Netanyahu's suggestion that a Palestine entity might take the shape of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was of particular interest to me because I covered for The Jerusalem Post in 1947 the UN resolution calling for the partition of Palestine into two states. It is not often remembered that the resolution also called for the economic union of the two states. While they have their own flag and elected officials, the Puerto Ricans can move freely to the US for jobs at higher pay. Will Gazans be able to move to Israel under Bibi's suggestion?

The example of Puerto Rico is consistent with the economic union recommended by the UN resolution passed on November 29, 1947. But it would take a radical shift in the political and social climate in Israel and PA territory to implement it.

I fear, and I hope that I'm wrong, that like many of Bibi's statements since his superb inaugural address, the Puerto Rico suggestion is just another example of hot air that evaporates in the wind with nothing tangible remaining on the ground.

J. ZEL LURIE Delray Beach, Florida

CELLPHONES

Sir, - With regard to Michal Yudeliman's article of November 13 about the cellphone plague, I believe thousands of cellphone sufferers will support the Tel Aviv Municipality's suggestion.

I often travel by taxi and am forced to listen to my driver's most intimate conversations with his wife, lover, friend, buddy. Whenever I interrupt, disgusted, telling you to mind the driving, he sneers into his beloved cellphone about "a customer who is afraid of his driving."

The endeavors of Tel Aviv Councilor Amir Halevy and Mayor Roni Milo are most welcome. Perhaps this nuisance could be stopped if these people realized how ridiculous they look, walking around yelling, whispering and gesticulating into their beloved cellphones—and not impressive, as they think.

KEITH N. KERR Houston, Texas

LILIT PAVELL Tel Aviv

ALARMING AD

Sir, - I noted with alarm that on October 25, you included a prominently placed memorial advertisement for Meir Kahane, "a truly great, martyred Jewish leader." The announcement ends by asking that God "average his blood" and it lists a number of the Post's readers can call for further information. This same edition of the paper was full of articles marking the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

Is the issue here free speech? If so, one is tempted to ask if the Post, in the interests of "equal time," would agree to print a memorial notice for Yihye Ayyash, the Engineer, who is clearly a "truly great, martyred... leader." It should go without saying that rejection of such an ad does not in any way violate the rights of the Kahaneists to publicize their beliefs on their own.

The Jerusalem Post is a paper read by an international public that includes diplomats, visitors, subscribers and library-readers around the world and many Israeli citizens who believe that democracy is more than a stepping stone to theocracy or Arabism in Israel; as such, it has certain responsibilities that go beyond sales and income-generating ads. Its editors should think more than twice before printing notices that glorify Jewish supremacists.

PETER COLE Jerusalem

Children's rights are paramount

PHILIP VEERMAN

The convention demands that within two years of ratification a national report be submitted to Geneva addressing the situation of children and their rights within each ratifying country.

Though Israel's report was due in 1993 work on it has not even begun. Other Israeli reports to the UN concerning civil and political rights laid down in other conventions are also long overdue.

Israel's failure to fulfill its obligations under the UN children's convention does it no credit

Israel's reports on torture and on discrimination against women were both criticized by the treaty committees in Geneva as being substandard; the latter was deemed incomplete and is being resubmitted.

THIS tardiness is very regrettable. We have an ironic situation in which the prime minister preaches the merits and necessity of human rights to his Middle East neighbors and they—Jordan, Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon—have all submitted their reports as required under the CRC, while Israel has not.

After many years of UN discrimination Israel now has three experts sitting on treaty committees in

Geneva. Prof. David Kretzmer, Dr. Carmel Shalev and Deputy Attorney-General Judith Karp.

This is good news for our non-governmental organizations, since these experts can use their experience from within the UN to prod the Justice and Foreign ministries.

What should Israel's CRC report address? There are great discrepancies between the Jewish and Arab Israeli school systems; there is no mandatory legal representation for youngsters accused of criminal offenses; and conditions in young offenders' detention centers are frequently appalling.

In addition the government's proposed cuts in education, health and welfare services would impact seriously on a large section of Israel's children.

We strongly recommend that a human rights commissioner with authority and a budget be appointed within the Foreign Ministry to oversee state reports, consult with local NGOs and ensure that the principles and provisions of the various UN treaties are made widely known to children and adults alike.

This is one of the aims of our organization. Surely the time has come for Israel to relate more seriously to all human rights treaties, starting with the least controversial and most important, the children's convention.

The writer is executive director of the Israeli section of Defense for Children International (DCI-Israel) and author of The Rights of the Child and the Changing Image of Childhood.

POSTSCRIPTS

A PILOT whose light plane developed engine trouble crash-landed on the roof of a supermarket and was able to walk away unharmed.

Raymond McClelland suffered only a minor cut on his knee and no one else was hurt, but the airplane was destroyed.

McClelland, 52, of Venice, Florida, wound up on the Publix supermarket roof. The plane skidded

across the roof and hit a parapet around it.

"He may have chosen the roof of a Publix supermarket because it was a large open space with no pedestrians," a police official said.

THE US Coast Guard responded with typical speed when the call came that a killer whale was stuck on a Key West, Florida, beach,

sending a crew aboard an inflatable boat to search for the stranded mammal.

However, all they recovered was a plastic whale.

A Coast Guard spokesman said they were not sure whether they were the victims of a practical joke or whether the inflated whale had drifted away from its owner accidentally.

When boys shouldn't confront female nudity

PARENTING
RUTH MASON

In my neighborhood pool, mothers often bring their sons up to the age of four or five into the women's changing room. This seems to me not to be in the best interests of the child. In fact, I think it's a subtle form of sexual abuse. I'm sure we wouldn't bring our five-year-old daughters into the men's locker room.

At what age should parents stop bringing their children into a dressing room of the opposite sex?

Alan Flashman, M.D., pediatrician and child psychiatrist who practices in Beersheba, answers: In many families, mothers do not conceal themselves from their sons at the age of four and that seems to be something with which

boys can cope with. But the idea of a four- or five-year-old being confronted with female nudity on a mass scale probably puts too much of a burden on the child. It is unlikely he would be able to express any embarrassment, bewilderment or excitement that he may feel and so the mother would not be easily able to figure out what is happening to her child.

The proper age to stop bringing children into a dressing room of the opposite sex is when a mother can clearly see that her child is starting to feel uncomfortable. But since in these circumstances the signals are hard to read, it would be best to err on the side of caution and stop between the ages of two and three.



Reuma Weizman (l) plays guide for Vivien Clore Duffield, chairwoman of the Clore Foundation at Yad Sarah. (Sara Ushay)

Better never than late

GRAPEVINE
GREER FAY CASHMAN

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer missed the plane taking him to Tel Aviv to see Boker for the memorial ceremony marking the anniversary of David Ben-Gurion's death. The army offered to take him by helicopter, but a few minutes into the flight, Hammer realized he wasn't going to make it in time, and asked the pilot to turn back. The service was marked by the death of Labor MKs, and the word from the seething Labor ranks was that they had not received invitations. But Yariv Ben-Eliezer, the most vocal of the first prime minister's grandchildren, was there, and so was the present prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, who, as usual, walked hand in hand with Sara.

and gives an informed run-down on the uses of equipment. Thus when Vivien Clore Duffield, chairman of the Clore Foundation, came to the organization's Jerusalem headquarters last week for the unveiling of the foundation's gift of a minibus for the disabled, it was Weizman who was her guide.

AND FORMER GSS chief and current Cellcom president Ya'acov Peri, who is also in high demand, seldom refuses an invitation, now that he's emerged from the world of the shadows. Peri has just accepted the chairmanship of WIZO Israel's 1997 NIS 6 million fund-raising appeal.

DISDAINING THE use of the microphone at the British Emma dinner co-hosted by Paima Herzog and Della Worms, former Jerusalem Post editor David Bar-Ilan, who is also an internationally acclaimed concert pianist and now serves as director of policy planning and communications in the Prime Minister's Office, noted "I used to play the piano without a microphone and I'm going to talk without a microphone." And indeed he didn't need one, though his audience, which included Elaine Sacks, wife of the chief rabbi of the British Commonwealth, and Lady Jakobovits, wife of the chief rabbi emeritus, would have preferred a more rosy picture of the future. Nonetheless, they were partially reassured when Bar-Ilan pledged "We are not going to sacrifice the safety of Israelis for the sake of the [Oslo] agreement."

ALTHOUGH THEY support numerous social welfare, educational, binational and cultural causes, philanthropists Yuli and Ruti Ofer, somehow by-passed the Friends of Tel Aviv University, until FTAU president Raya Jaglom, whose fund-raising achievements are legend, persuaded them otherwise. Their first TAU benefit was a gala evening featuring the Moiseyev Dance Company from Moscow.

The 500 tickets sold will go a long way towards providing scholarships. When she first saw the Moiseyev dancers in Moscow in 1964, she never imagined that she would see them in Israel at a performance on behalf of Tel Aviv University, said Jaglom, who together with Ruti Ofer chatted in fluent Russian to the company's artistic director and choreographer Igor Moiseyev. Benno Gitter, chairman of the TAU Board of Governors, who specially came back from New York for the occasion, observed that although he and Ofer had not always seen eye to eye in their previous dealings, they were definitely in accord on matters pertaining to TAU.

WHEN THE wife of the chief rabbi issues an invitation, one has to have a very good excuse to refuse. Thus it came as no surprise that Rabbi Hita Lau had a full house when she invited a broad mosaic of Israeli society to commit themselves in some way to Ezer Mizion, a Bnei Brak headquartered organization which gives every possible kind of assistance to the sick and the needy 365 days a year, 24 hours around the clock - gratis. Among those present were Reuma Weizman, Jill Indyk, Nagwa Bassiouny, Kenna Shoval, MK Naomi Blumenthal, Ariella Turner, Leora Eini, Micki Mazar, Hita Rahav, Elana Rozenman and Bracha Zisser, who together with her husband, investment tycoon Moshe Zisser, has financed the construction of Oranit, a hostel in Petah Tikva for children with cancer. Some of the 70 or so women present wept as Keren Simal, a now healthy, beautiful young mother, recounted what Ezer Mizion had done for her and her family when she was stricken with cancer at age 15.

Reuma Weizman, lamenting the rifts which are sundering the nation, commended Rabbatit Lau for bringing such a diverse group together, and observed that "volunteerism is one of the things which can unite us." Binyamina Sherman, Ezer Mizion's dynamic volunteer public-relations officer, was able to generate enthusiasm without mentioning that she happens to be a mother of 10 and a grandmother of four, and also gives her time to other causes as well as Ezer Mizion.

AS A rule, Reuma Weizman is on the receiving end of explanations when she visits social-welfare facilities. But in the case of Yad Sarah, where she herself is a volunteer, Weizman is an expert, who very articulately tells the story

In search of better town management

The image of local authorities is changing dramatically after years of being considered the dregs of Israeli politics, Yosef Goell writes



Forum participants included (from left), Eli Gabai of Lakia, David Efrati of Hura, Wahib Nasser A-Din Kasr Samia, Zvika Ma Yafit of Oranit, and David Kooler of Kohav Yair.

IMAGINE, if you will, a conference room in a posh hotel with 45 or so animated and self-important men, half of them reaching furtively to respond to the insistent shrill beeping of their cellular phones, and the other half just as impatiently shushing them up. This was a typical scene at the 13th meeting of the Lyn P. Meyerhoff 21st Century Forum of Israeli Mayors and Heads of Local Authorities held in Caesarea at the end of October.

Local government was, for a long time, considered the most problematic sector of Israel's public administration. Many local authorities were beset by perpetual infighting among a myriad of factions, and between the council and the mayor who was elected from within its ranks. Many local authorities were also a hotbed of corruption - petty and major - and of ethnic and clan politics at their worst.

A major step forward came in the late 1970s, with the adoption of the law for the direct election of mayors. The main achievement of that reform seems to have been in the quality of the candidates attracted to municipal office and in the political stability accorded to heads of local authorities between elections.

The direct election of the heads of local authorities, however, did not automatically improve the quality of the administration of those bodies. It apparently takes quite a long time to learn how to be an effective mayor of a modern community.

This is where the 21st Century Forum comes in. Its underlying purpose is to facilitate the development of a competent municipal leadership predicated on the conviction that in an increasingly decentralized Israel, local government will play a key and growing role in defining the everyday quality of life for nearly all Israelis.

The 21st Century Forum of Mayors is funded by the Meyerhoff Foundation of Baltimore, with JDC-Israel (through its ELKA management training arm), the Sikkuy association for the advancement of equal opportunity and the Ministry of Interior as partners. Membership of the forum, which was founded in 1994, is voluntary, and today comprises about 80 out of the 160 heads of local authorities.

Forum activities have included four plenary sessions a year, of two to three days each, attended by an average of 40 or so participants, as well as several smaller working sessions of two to three hours each. There also was a "study tour" to a number of US municipalities - my impression was that that was pretty much a

junket. Nearly all the members are from small to medium-sized localities. None of the big city mayors, or those from other towns with 100,000 or more residents, have joined - with the recent exception of the mayor of Holon. Apparently, these big-city mayors are either too busy - although evidence indicates that small-town mayors tend to be much busier, harassed and accessible to complaining constituents - or much more likely, much fuller with a sense of their self-importance to admit that there is anything that they have to, or could, learn from participation in such get-togethers.

Slightly over 40 percent of the members are new heads of local authorities in their first term of office. Seventy percent are Jews, and 30 percent are heads of Arab or Druse communities. My impression in speaking to a cross-section of the participants was that it is specifically the new mayors and the Arabs and Druse who are most ready to admit that they have much to learn, and are ready to spend the

time and effort to do so. The fact that there were no women participants is a reflection of the sorry situation that there are only two women heads of local authorities out of a total of 160.

EACH OF the plenary sessions is planned around a major topic. The one I attended last month had a clearly focused topic: Mediation as an alternative strategy to conflict management and resolution in local government (see story below).

Many of the topics at previous meetings, however, seem to have been much more diffuse and problematic as regards the feasibility of their application in the day-to-day working lives of the mayors. These included: Heads of local authorities - leaders in an era of change; Effectiveness in local government; Development and administration of public policy, and the like.

One of the important contributions of projects funded by well-run foreign foundations like the Meyerhoff Foundation is that

they insist on follow-up assessments of the achievements of the projects they initiate. For this purpose the forum has been monitored by the local Pilat company by means of questionnaires distributed to the participants and follow-up interviews with them.

In an assessment report of the forum's achievements to date, the Pilat assessors found that 70 to 90 percent of the participants expressed great satisfaction with the forum sessions while a full 100 percent said that it was important to them to continue participating in these sessions. Much of this self-assessment follows around such terms as "vision," "long-term planning," and other mantras of the discipline of public administration.

Vision talk is heady stuff, as we read in connection with recent US presidential campaigns, and so is "long-term planning."

But it is extremely difficult to assess how participants exposed to such "visionizing" actually are guided by it in their daily work.

Seeking those 'win-win' solutions

THE keynote address at the Mayors' Forum was the talk by Professor Moti Mironi of Tel Aviv University's law faculty, on "Mediation as a tool in conflict resolution."

He argued that the common model used for conducting negotiations was not very effective. It was too competitive, too aggressive and power-oriented and often worsened the relations between the conflicting sides, a very important consideration in situations - such as in families and communities - in which the disputants had to continue living with each other.

Courts, he said, were just as ineffective. Because they were so tied to legal procedures and restraints of the adversarial process, judges were often incapable - and often not legally permitted - to come up with innovative and effective solutions to conflicts.

In the US, he noted, 85 percent of all civil court cases were never adjudicated but submitted to some sort of negotiations or mediation. In Israel, the figure was 70 percent of all cases. Besides which, the courts were so overloaded that it often took over five years for a case to come up for a hearing.

Small claims courts were just as ineffective. To illustrate what he meant by "innovative" solutions, Mironi told an old story about Moshe Dayan. That world-renowned war hero was also an archeology buff who frequently bought ancient artifacts

from dealers. Dayan was equally renowned for not paying his debts to dealers. One such dealer was getting frantic about what to do about Dayan's mounting debt. Dayan finally suggested to the dealer that he give him a large number of post-dated checks in payment, which the dealer promised not to cash immediately.

In fact, the dealer never cashed the checks, but sold them to foreign tourists who were overjoyed to pay a premium for a Dayan autograph on a check which they framed in their living room rather than cashing it. At this point, one of the mayors who had known Dayan noted dryly that had the usually wily Dayan been on his toes he would have eliminated the dealer and sold his own autographed checks.

Mironi urged the mayors to consider mediation in which a trained mediator is brought in to come up with innovative "win-win" solutions to conflicts that would benefit all sides to the dispute, as part of a panoply of alternate dispute resolution methods. The ensuing simulation game on mediation was less impressive. A good part of the problem in translating theory into practice was that the simulation mediator insisted on making the mayor himself one of the sides to the dispute, whereas the political electee was vitally interested to appear as the man who had come up with the solution. Y.G.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Wednesday, November 20, 1997

German banks seek to cash in on Telekom follow-up

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - Following the successful first phase of the Deutsche Telekom flotation on Monday, the tug-of-war between Germany's banks for lucrative follow-up business has kicked off in earnest.

Many private investors received only a fraction of the shares they applied for in Germany's major telecommunications company. This leaves billions of marks, originally earmarked for Telekom shares, lying in bank vaults.

Investment groups and credit institutions are now trying to harness this surplus capital by offering new investment opportunities, including special offers and new telecommunications funds.

At the same time, banking experts have urged investors to be cautious. Although only 930 million marks (\$618.5m.) worth of Telekom stock was issued to private investors, Commerzbank had total orders from would-be individual shareholders worth around 2.8 billion marks.

Dresdner Bank, one of the flotation's global coordinators, said around 2b. marks of money allocated for Telekom investment is still sitting in bank accounts. While Dresdner said it is recommending that its customers continue to buy Telekom shares, its main focus is to get its customers interested in investment funds.

The Deka umbrella group of savings banks yesterday issued a telecoms-media fund, composed of companies like Deutsche Telekom, AT&T and Mannesmann, and is recommending that its customers round off their telecoms portfolios with the fund.

Union Investment launched the "AME" Communication Fund, which is made up of communications stocks and which the company sees as an investment alternative to Telekom shares.

Meridor wants additional NIS 2b. budget cuts in '97

FINANCE Minister Dan Meridor is considering an additional NIS 2 billion budget cut, which could be introduced into the Knesset before the end of the month.

Speaking to reporters after addressing yesterday's annual Treasury budget department seminar, Meridor said his ministry is currently assessing 1997 likely income levels, and current thinking is revenues will be some NIS 2b. lower than the budgetary requirement.

"I am still not sure of the exact figure," Meridor said. "However, if we know enough details before the end of the debate [on the budget], we'll do it before the end of this year. If not, we'll do it next year, but that's just a technical issue. I have no doubt there is a need for this additional cut to ensure we stay on the right path."

The key factor in making this decision, according to Meridor, is ensuring the budget deficit is reduced to 2.8 percent of the GDP by December 1997. Latest Treasury estimates suggest the NIS 4.9b. cuts currently being consid-

ered in the Knesset will be insufficient to achieve this aim.

Meridor was scheduled to meet Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu this morning to discuss the 1997 budget.

During his speech, Meridor launched a strong attack on certain ministerial colleagues, MKs, the business community and the Histadrut for failing to support the long-term interests of the country, but rather their vested interests. By failing to support the budget, those aiming to protect the socially weak will end up hurting those they set out to help, he said.

"They need to see further than the tips of their noses, and realize this is needed for the entire nation," Meridor added. "Public figures should stop disputing, stand together and try to persuade the people of the benefits [of the cuts]."

Referring specifically to the Defense

Ministry, which is continuing to fight the proposed cuts, Meridor said the claims of the military are threatening the entire budget package.

Foreign Minister David Levy, meanwhile, told the leaders of Na'amat, the Histadrut women's organization, on Monday, that Gesher will vote against any measures that involve cuts in child benefit allowances, health care and old age pensions. Na'amat intends lobbying every coalition MK in the coming weeks to persuade them not to support a budget they say is going to damage weaker people.

Concluding his speech, Meridor again denied there is a recession in the economy, but warned, "there is the potential to deteriorate in the coming years."

Once the budget is successfully implemented, the Treasury will be able to concentrate on its liberalization program, opening Israel to world competition, tax reforms, which will be implemented in levels, and completing the work of the Brodet committee on reforming the capital markets, Meridor said.



Demonstrators claiming the free-trade agenda of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group will take jobs from developing countries protest outside the US embassy in Manila yesterday. Heads of the 18 member-countries begin their meeting later this week. (AP)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Netanyahu forms committee to examine farmers' problems: Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu announced yesterday the creation of a committee that will examine the problems faced by the farming community.

Three areas will be investigated - payments to farmers, granting government and bank loans for agricultural development, and funding sources of help and advice for R&D work.

The committee, to be headed by Agriculture Ministry director-general Danny Krichman, must present its recommendations by the end of January next year. *David Harris*

September, October were poor months for hotels: The number of nights spent in hotels in September and October fell by 7 percent in comparison to the same period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday. The number of foreign tourists using hotels during the last two months declined 15%.

The number of tourists was down sharply in Jerusalem, down 22%, with a 10% decline in Tel Aviv. Many of the cancellations by foreign visitors were offset by an increase in bookings by Israelis, up 4% to 5% throughout the country. *David Harris*

Energy companies meet in Tel Aviv: More than a 100 energy-related companies have been participating in the Kypro '96 industrial energy exhibition, which is scheduled to close in Tel Aviv today.

The three-day event has given companies the opportunity to present the latest technological developments in their fields of expertise. *David Harris*

Six institutions show interest in buying a piece of Banco di Napoli: Three Italian and three foreign institutions are interested in the sale of a 60% stake in struggling Banco di Napoli, which is on the block as part of a plan to salvage the loss-making bank.

Southern Italy's largest bank is temporarily under the control of the Italian Treasury after piling up a record loss of 3.12 trillion lire (NIS 6.5 billion) last year.

Under pressure from the European Commission to sell the ailing bank by the end of the year, the Treasury gave companies until November 18 to express an initial interest in the sale. The interested parties now have until December 20 to make a full bid. *Reuters*

Euro Disney won't pay dividend despite profits surge: Euro Disney reported a 77% jump in profits after drawing a record 11.7 million people to its Paris theme park in the past year, but the debt-laden company sounded a cautious note about the future.

Net income rose to 202m. French francs (NIS 130m.) in the year to September 30 from 114m. francs a year earlier. A 9% increase in revenue to 5b. francs more than offset rising costs and finance charges on its 15.1b. franc debt. *Reuters*

Germany's Kohl says EMU start must not be delayed: German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said yesterday the criteria for European Economic and Monetary Union must not be softened and the start of the single currency project must not be delayed. "The German republic will not do anything that would represent a softening of the criteria or a postponement of the start-date," Kohl said. *Reuters*

Suharto wants shareholders limited to 15% of Indonesian companies: President Suharto was quoted as saying yesterday that individual shareholdings should not exceed 15% in companies listed on Indonesia's stock exchanges.

"The control should not exceed 15%. It should be a maximum of 15% and other people should be able to get a stake," Subiyakto Tjakrawadaya, the minister of cooperatives and small business, quoted Suharto as saying.

The minister's comments followed a meeting with the president to discuss the development of cooperatives and small businesses. *Reuters*

FIBI net income up 63%

COMPANY RESULTS
JENNIFER FRIEDLEN

FIRST International Bank of Israel Ltd. announced a 63 percent increase in net income from NIS 33.3 million in the third quarter of 1995 to NIS 54.2m., Bloomberg Business News reported.

Income before provisions for doubtful debt rose 10.4% to NIS 194m. from NIS 175.7m. in the same period last year.

First International Bank, owned by the Safra family, is Israel's fifth-largest in terms of assets and only privately owned bank.

Azorim Investment Development and Construction, Ltd. reported a 12% increase in third-quarter net profits to NIS 18.2m. from NIS 16.2m. in the corresponding period last year.

Revenues for the Tel Aviv-based company were up 6% to NIS 228m. from NIS 214m. in the third quarter of 1995.

The results come in light of a recent slowdown in the overall real estate industry and a decrease in the number of housing starts.

Azorim is one of Israel's largest development companies, coordinating Clal (Israel) Ltd.'s activities in building, construction and real estate.

British expert: no government money for TA railway

DAVID HARRIS

TEL Aviv's planned mass-transit rail system should be funded entirely by the private sector, Sir Peter Levene, a leading expert on railway management, said yesterday.

Now British Prime Minister John Major's adviser on efficiency and effectiveness, Levene met Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy and Government Companies Authority director-general Tzipi Livni during a two-day visit.

Levene, who turned the London Docklands railway from a break-down-prone money-loser into a highly popular commuter service, said there should be no government involvement in the Tel Aviv project.

The fares charged will make the lines self-supporting, he said. Levene also turned his anti-government gaze on Israel's civil service. Israel "hasn't had the stimulus of a pig-push by government to de-bureaucratize," he said.

Former British premier Margaret Thatcher had been determined to cut government activities. "She felt the government was too intrusive," said Levene.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is making appropriate noises to encourage a free market and privatization, Levene said. "This is exactly what we've done and successfully. We've got a great deal of experience, which we would hope they can use here."

However, such programs may prove hard to implement, Levene said. "It requires a lot of cooperation from the unions, but I know they're tough here and will fight it hard."

Air France to invest in Israel route

HAIM SHAPIRO

IN the face of 10 years of losses on its Israel run, Air France still considers Tel Aviv a priority destination and intends to invest in it in the future, the airline's Israel manager, Jean-Pierre Tabary, told a news conference in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Air France is due to be privatized by the end of next year, he said.

The airline already dismissed some 10,000 workers in cuts that are intended to make the privatized company more attractive to investors.

Tabary said the average annual loss on the Paris-Tel Aviv run was about \$8 million, but he added that by next year he hoped at least the run would break even.

To do so, the airline would not necessarily have to attract more passengers, but increase the number of business-class passengers.

In other markets, he said, Air France is doing well. In Germany, for example, it is second only to Lufthansa, he said.

It is important to bring passengers to and from third countries, he said, but added that Air France is more interested in attracting passengers flying between Israel and European countries beyond France, rather than competing for the transatlantic market.

Israel Aircraft in joint venture with Pritzker

STEVE RODAN

ISRAEL Aircraft Industries and the Pritzker organization agreed to form a joint venture company to manufacture, market and service business-jet aircraft.

The new company will be called Galaxy Aerospace Corp., a US firm to be based in Princeton, New Jersey. That is the site of the current offices of Astra Jet, IAI's business-jet marketing subsidiary. Pending US government approvals, including those required under US anti-trust law, the deal should be concluded in the first quarter of next year.

IAI executives said Pritzker, which owns Hyatt hotels in the US, will invest \$50 million in the new company and will have about a 50 percent stake.

The partnership is part of a policy determined by the Finance Ministry in 1993 for IAI to find strategic investors in major production, such as business-jet production.

IAI has delivered 450 business jets to operators around the world,

executives said. Astra is the base of the company's executive-jet line. The company's US revenue for 1995 was \$1.45 billion.

Galaxy initially will assume marketing and product responsibility for the business jets built or developed by IAI, executives said. Once a permanent headquarters for the new company is found, Galaxy will develop a completion center and factory service at that site.

Brian Barents, 52, an aerospace executive with 20 years experience in business-jet development, will be Galaxy's chief executive. He is a former senior vice president of marketing at Cessna and chief executive of Learjet.

"This is a very strong three-way partnership," Moshe Keret, IAI director-general said. "With the launch of the new company, we at IAI can now focus our full attention on the completion of the Galaxy certification effort and on preparation for full-scale production."

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.75	5.00	5.375	
British sterling (£100,000)	5.25	5.50	5.875	
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.825	1.825	2.125	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.925	0.750	1.000	
Yen (10 million yen)				
(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)				
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (10.11.96)				
CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep.
Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	3.6154	3.6728	3.15	3.2438
German mark	2.1321	2.2579	2.15	2.2510
French franc	5.2897	5.4584	5.27	5.4484
Japanese yen (100)	0.8385	0.8407	0.81	0.8367
Dutch florin	2.6738	2.8203	2.67	2.8203
Swiss franc	1.8014	1.8321	1.88	1.96
Spanish peseta	2.8255	2.9891	2.82	2.9891
Norwegian krona	0.4844	0.4923	0.47	0.4888
Danish krone	0.5533	0.5147	0.49	0.5103
Finnish mark	0.7072	0.7187	0.69	0.6987
Canadian dollar	2.3882	2.4247	2.34	2.4054
Australian dollar	2.5448	2.5890	2.50	2.5648
S. African rand	0.8300	0.7012	0.82	0.71
Belgian franc (10)	1.0343	1.0510	1.01	1.029
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0128	3.0787	2.97	3.0348
Italian lira (1000)	2.1188	2.1528	2.08	2.1217
Jordanian dinar	4.4800	4.7000	4.48	4.70
Egyptian pound	4.5880	4.6821	4.58	4.6821
Irish punt	5.3787	5.4836	5.28	5.34
Spanish peseta (100)	2.6388	2.5747	2.48	2.643
*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.				
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI				

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German mark NIS 2.121 +0.31

INTEL STOCK MARKETS
New York market indexes
Last Change
DJI Industrial 6370 0
DJI Transp 2270 0
DJI Util 2240 0

Other stock market indexes
FTSE 100 3978 0
Nikkei 225 13100 0
DAX 3000 0

Israeli stocks in US
NYSE / AMEX / NASDAQ / OTC
Last Change
Am Is Pop 37 0
Amex 43125 0

LIBOR RATES
Last Change
3 months 7.00 0
6 months 7.00 0
12 months 7.00 0

INTEL MONEY MARKETS
Dollar crossrates (US)
Last Change
Pound 1.63 0
Euro 1.36 0

LIBOR RATES
Last Change
3 months 7.00 0
6 months 7.00 0
12 months 7.00 0

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

INTEL COMMODITIES AND METALS
US commodities
Last Change
Corn 1.34 0
Soybean 1.25 0

London commodities
Last Change
Crude Oil 18.50 0
Gold 370.00 0

Spot market metals (US)
Last Change
Gold 370.00 0
Silver 4.80 0

London metal fixes
Last Change
Gold 370.00 0
Silver 4.80 0

New York metal futures
Last Change
Gold 370.00 0
Silver 4.80 0

London metal fixes
Last Change
Gold 370.00 0
Silver 4.80 0

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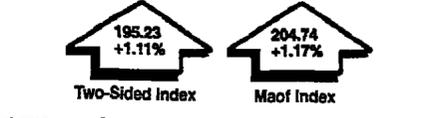
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Stocks rise on Meridor speech, banks' gains

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



STOCKS rose after two days of losses, boosted by banking shares, which gained after better-than-expected earnings and news of a share purchase. Statements by Finance Minister Dan Meridor that he may seek additional reductions in the 1997 budget by up to NIS 2 billion also prompted rising shares prices.

Eurobourses edge up, boosted by US gains

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - The stock market ended on a firm note as an unexpected rise on Wall Street dragged share prices higher. The FTSE 100 share index, which spent much of the day becalmed around 3,960 points on worries about next week's budget and interest rates, tracked the US market reluctantly higher to close at 3,978.1, up 16 points on the day.

Record run continues as IBM powers Dow

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks resumed their record-setting march yesterday, led again by IBM, as interest rates fell in the bond market amid more signs of a moderating economy that may keep inflation in check.

CURRENCY CROSS RATES

Currency cross rates table with columns for MARK, STERLING, YEN, SFY, FFI and corresponding values.

Venables to coach Aussie nat'l team

LONDON (AP) - Former England soccer coach Terry Venables confirmed yesterday he will become team manager of Australia with the immediate aim of qualifying for the 1998 World Cup.

"That's got to be the target. I've got to work out how to get to the target, that's my job," Venables said at a news conference staged at his west London club, Scribes.

"I think that what interested me was international football again. I've had two and a half years with England, and I really did enjoy it."

Venables, 53, takes over January 1. He replaces Scottish-born Eddie Thomson who resigned as Australian coach to take over Japanese club Sanfrecce Hiroshima.

The colorful Londoner, who only played twice for England but was the first to represent his country at every level from schoolboy upwards, led England to a semi-final finish at this year's European championships before handing over to Glenn Hoddle.

Reports in England say Venables will be paid some £200,000-a-year to be manager of the Australian team - £70,000 more than the English Football Association was paying him - and will probably spend no more than four months of the year in Australia.

The irony is that the Australian team could wind up playing against England if they both qualify for the finals in France in two years time.

"I think it's a possibility," he said, "but there are many permutations of what could happen."

Venables originally was appointed England coach to get the English to the finals but, because of problems caused by business commitments and an ongoing series of libel actions, he realized the two situations wouldn't work together.

Now some of the business prob-

lems and court cases have been resolved, he has more time to devote to soccer.

"I don't regret the decision that I made, after negotiations with the English F.A. But there was a frustration, and I would have liked to have finished the job properly to go to the World Cup."

"Now I have a chance to make that happen, and I'll do my damndest to do that."

Venables has managed English clubs including Crystal Palace, Queen's Park Rangers, and Tottenham and led Barcelona to the Spanish League championship and

a European Champions Cup final.

On the day he was named Australian team manager, Venables also became chairman of the English first division club Portsmouth, where he has spent the early weeks of this season as director of coaching.

Soccer Australia chief executive David Hill reached agreement with Venables after discussions with a number of top coaches, including Kenny Dalglish, Jack Charlton and Johan Cruyff.

The vast majority of Australian national team players are contracted to European clubs, and it is

believed Venables will spend much of his time based in Europe.

Terry's presence will not only boost the team's morale, it will raise the profile of the game back home," said goalkeeper Mark Bosnich, who plays in England for Aston Villa.

"We are probably in the second division of world football right now but he will change all that."

The next World Cup will be played in France in 1998. Although Australia is favored to win the Oceania qualifying tournament, it would then need to beat the fourth-best Asian team to

reach the finals.

Venables' career:

Aug. 1968 - Signed professional with West Ham; Oct. 1964 - Capped for England; June 1976 - Appointed Crystal Palace manager; May 1981 - Appointed Barcelona manager; Sep. 1987 - Dismissed by Barcelona; Oct. 1987 - Appointed Tottenham Hotspur manager; July 1991 - Becomes Chief Executive of Tottenham; June 1993 - Dismissed as Chief Executive of Tottenham; Jan. 1994 - Appointed England coach; July 1996 - Sues England to European Championship semifinals; Aug. 1996 - Takes over as Director of Football at Portsmouth; Nov. 1996 - Named as new coach to Australian National side.

Krajicek, Becker open with wins at ATP C'ship Metz, Newcastle draw 1-1

Hingis makes quarters of women's championship

HANOVER, Germany (AP) - Switching the venue hasn't bothered Boris Becker. It may have even helped him.

Picking up where he left off in Frankfurt one year ago, Becker began the defense of his ATP World Championship title by beating Yevgeny Kafelnikov 6-4, 7-5 yesterday.

After six years in Frankfurt, where Becker celebrated two emotional victories in the ATP season-ending event, the tournament moved north to Hanover.

Hanover is using the tournament as a promotion for the World Exposition it will host in 2000.

"Usually in Germany we say that the more north you go, the colder the people get. But I was really astonished by the atmosphere here," Becker said.

While the hall was about 3,000 people short of the capacity 15,000, Becker never lacked support.

"The atmosphere was fair, but very warm and I felt very good out there," said Becker, who had built a close relationship with Frankfurt fans.

But Becker is a hero everywhere in Germany and the feet-stomping crowd helped him overcome some tense moments in the second set when Kafelnikov threatened to get back into the match.

"Through all those people the heat was stronger and it speeded up the court and for a serve-and-volley player it's a bit better."

Earlier, Richard Krajicek, the Wimbledon champion, blasted 20 aces and rolled past Michael Chang 6-4, 6-4 to open the tournament.

Becker was nearly as devastating in dispatching Kafelnikov, the Russian who won the French Open this championship.

The German, seeking an unprecedented third title in event, served 17 aces and fired three in a row to finish off the match, winning the last game at love for his fourth straight victory over Kafelnikov.

Becker, the Australian Open

champion who is ranked No. 6 in the world, faced two break points in the second set but saved them both and followed with aces to win those games, for 2-2 and 4-4, respectively.

The key break came in the 11th game on an error by Kafelnikov and Becker then served out the match, beating his third-ranked opponent in 78 minutes.

"It seemed to go very smoothly. I got the first win out of the way and now I can really enjoy it," said Becker, who leads all active players with 29 indoor titles.

Krajicek gained a break in each set and needed only 62 minutes to beat Chang, the No. 2 player in the world.

Because of the round-robin format in the first stage of the \$3.3-million tournament of the eight top-ranked players in the world, Chang is still not out of contention.

The American, who captured three singles titles this year in the best season of his career, will likely need to beat Thomas Muster and Goran Ivanisevic, the other two players in his group.

The top two players from each group advance to the semifinals.

Krajicek, the only Dutchman to win a Grand Slam title when he captured Wimbledon this year, broke Chang for a 4-3 lead and never looked behind.

The only time Krajicek was slightly in trouble was in the fourth game of the second set, just after he had broken Chang's serve.

Krajicek hit a serve at 210 km per hour, only to see Chang plant his feet and whip a blistering return for defence.

But an overhead smash and an ace saved the Dutchman, who clinched the game and breezed through the rest of the match.

"It's the best match I've played against a big player since Wimbledon," Krajicek said.

"I haven't really worked on my serve in recent weeks. Suddenly, it clicked."

"I really wanted to play here and it showed in my game," said

Krajicek, who put 61 percent of his first serves in.

In late action, Goran Ivanisevic, Croatia's king of aces, fired 21 in beating Thomas Muster 6-4, 6-4 in 51 minutes. Muster has seven titles this year, but the Austrian is more of a threat on clay and had no chance against Ivanisevic on the fast indoor surface.

Women's Championship

In Madison Square Garden on Monday, Martina Hingis wasted no time in making a statement.

The 16-year-old from Switzerland stamped herself as a contender for the \$2 million Chase Championships by easily winning her first-round match. She zipped through Irina Spirlea of Romania 6-1, 6-2 in only 40 minutes to grab a spot in the quarter-finals of the season-ending tournament.

Olympic gold medalist Lindsay Davenport also won her first-round match in the season-ending, 16-player tournament, defeating Barbara Paulus of Austria 6-3, 6-2.

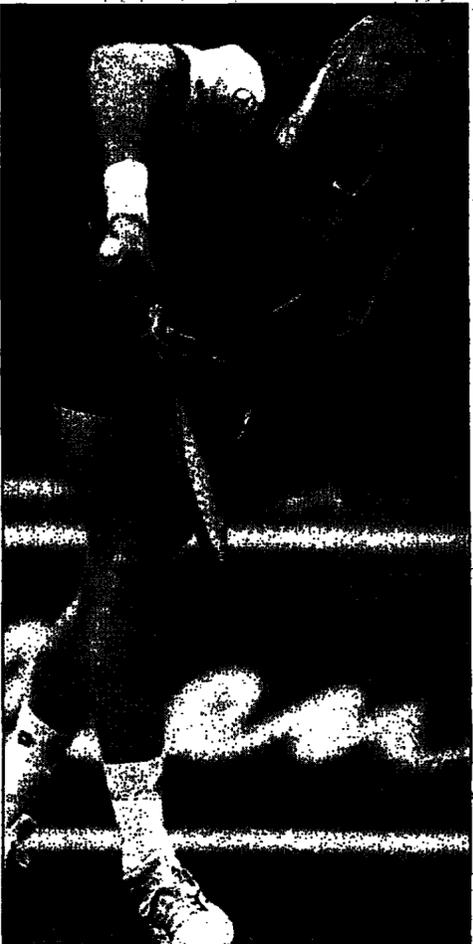
But sixth-seeded Anke Huber of Germany was surprised by Croatia's Iva Majoli 7-5, 6-3 in the opening match.

The top two seeds - Steffi Graf and Monica Seles - were scheduled to play their opening matches yesterday.

A two-time former champion, Gabriela Sabatini, was honored after the Davenport match. Sabatini, who won this tournament in 1988 and 1994, announced her retirement from the sport last month. She failed, however, to qualify for this year's event.

With victories over Graf and Seles this year, and with the top two players missing injuries - the seventh-seeded Hingis is considered to have a strong chance at capturing this title, which ranks just below the four Grand Slam events.

In her second full year on the WTA Tour, Hingis has beaten almost all of the top players, won two tournaments and zoomed up the rankings to No. 5 in the world.



ICE-BREAKER - Boris Becker serves against Yevgeny Kafelnikov, whom he beat in straight sets yesterday to open the end-of-the-year ATP Championship.

METZ, France (Reuters) - Metz of France and Newcastle drew 1-1 (halftime 0-1) in their UEFA Cup third round, first leg match yesterday.

Peter Beardsley of Newcastle opened the scoring with a 32nd-minute penalty shot. Metz drew even with a goal by Amara Traore in the 67th minute.

Anderlecht 0, Helsingborg 0

Anderlecht of Belgium ground out a 0-0 draw against host Helsingborg in a tie marred by a crowd disturbance yesterday.

Police officers waded into the stands 15 minutes into the second half to break up a brawl between rival supporters after a fence separating the two groups had been broken down.

The two groups began throwing fireworks at each other but the police appeared to be on top of the situation and had the crowd under control within minutes," a Helsingborg spokesman said.

The disturbance did not interfere with the game.

Anderlecht's Yaw Preko went close after 40 minutes when he broke clear but Sven Andersson in the Helsingborg goal left his line to thwart Preko with a brilliant one-handed save.

Mattias Jonson might have given the home side a 1-0 lead in the second half but his fierce shot struck a Belgian defender's foot to spin wide.

FC Bruges 2, Schalke 04 1

Croat international Mario Stanic, who was supposed to play in Italy by how, scored one goal and assisted on a second to lead FC Bruges to a home win over Germany's Schalke 04.

Stanic gave FC Bruges the lead in the 35th minute when the forward soared high above Tom Dooley and headed home Eric Deflandre's cross from close range.

In the 59th minute, his subtle backpass to Robert Spehar allowed his compatriot to beat

Jeans Lehman from close range for the decider.

FC Bruges agreed to transfer Stanic to Italy's Parma two weeks ago but last-minute haggling over technical details held up the move.

It was only because FC Bruges was hit hard by injuries and suspensions that it made a renewed call on Stanic after playing without him for the past few matches.

Michael Bueskens scored a spectacular half-volley from 20 yards out in the 51th minute for Schalke 04, redeeming teammate Olaf Thon who had missed a penalty only half a minute earlier.

Despite German appeals that the game should be postponed, it started in a snowstorm with players ploughing through an inch of slush that made combination play nearly impossible.

When play was visible in between the sheets of snow, sweeping across the Breydel stadium, the ball either skidded on or got stuck in the wet snow, taking any fluency out of the match.

The Germans mastered the conditions best in the first half.

Schalke came close to an all-important away-goal when forward Martin Max saw his low drive deflected onto the post by goalie Dany Verlinden in the 15th minute.

Tom Dooley had an open header on goal in the 27th minute, but it was kicked off the line by defender Eric Deflandre.

Monaco 3, Hamburg 0

Hover Monaco scored their second-half goals to take an easy victory over Hamburg.

After a scoreless first half, Brazilian Somy Anderson opened the scoring with a goal in the 49th minute on a centering pass by Lillian Martin.

That was followed by Victor Ikpeba, who scored his fourth goal for Monaco in the UEFA competition. Ikpeba, a member of Nigeria's gold medal team at the Olympics last summer, made it 2-0 in the 71st minute.

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Boniol's 7 FGs win for Cowboys

IRVING, Texas (AP) - Chris Boniol tied an NFL record with seven field goals as the Cowboys beat the Packers 21-6, their seventh straight win over Green Bay in four seasons.

Boniol's first five field goals came on Dallas' first five possessions Monday night. The last two came in the game to tie the mark shared by Jim Bakken and Rich Karis.

Right before the record-tying kick, Dallas quarterback Troy Aikman injured his knee and the Cowboys called timeout to get Boniol onto the field.

After the kick, the teams milled around, with the

Packers apparently angry about Dallas adding a needless score.

"I feel good, I'm proud of what I did," Boniol said. "I'm not excited about what happened after the fact, but how many times do you get to kick seven field goals?"

The Cowboys (7-4) pulled into a second-place tie with Philadelphia in the NFC East. Dallas trails Washington by one game, and has two games left against the Redskins.

Green Bay (8-3) lost for the second straight week, but remains in good shape in the NFC Central, two games ahead of Minnesota.

Belle inks deal with Chisox; Williams to take Bosox reigns

CHICAGO (AP) - Albert Belle joined the Chicago White Sox yesterday, agreeing to a five-year contract expected to make him baseball's highest-paid player. The contract was thought to be worth \$52.5 million over five years, which would be the baseball's richest in both total package and average annual value.

The temperamental 30-year-old outfielder, suspended several times for outbursts during his stay in Cleveland, led the Indians to the AL pennant in 1995, the team's first since 1954, and the team's second straight division title this year.

White Sox first baseman Frank Thomas appeared at the news conference with Belle, who said he wanted to see Thomas hit more home runs from up close.

"I'm sure I could have shopped around and got more money," Belle said. "I was very excited about being a part of that lineup."

Chicago was seventh in the AL last season with a .281 batting average and eighth in home runs at 195.

"This was the shot we needed," Thomas said. "It's an early Christmas present. I'm happy. I always wanted to play with him."

White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf, who also owns the Chicago Bulls, now has the highest-paid players in two sports. Michael Jordan's \$30.14m, one-year deal with the Bulls is the highest average salary in team sports.

"It's not about money, it's about winning," said Reinsdorf, whose basketball team has won four NBA titles in the 1990s.

Belle made \$5,675,000 last season, the option year of a deal he agreed to in March 1993, hitting 48 homers and 148 RBIs. In the strike-shortened 1995 season, he hit 50 homers and 50 doubles.

He has been known as much for his outbursts as he has for his hitting, but Belle suggested he wanted to put some of the controversy behind him. He has been suspended five times in six seasons, but after AL president Gene Budig ordered him to undergo counseling early this season, Belle wasn't involved in any more incidents.

Meanwhile, Jimmy Williams, the third base coach for the Atlanta Braves and a former Toronto Blue Jays manager, was hired yesterday as manager of the Boston Red Sox.

Williams was chosen to replace Kevin Kennedy, who was fired September 30.

He inherits a team that finished with an 85-77 record, third in the AL East.

Williams, 53, succeeded Bobby Cox as manager of the Blue Jays in 1986. He stayed through the 1989 season before he was fired, compiling a 281-241 overall record. In 1987, his best season, his team won 96 games.

He joined Cox's staff in Atlanta in 1990.

Holtz resigns as ND grid coach

SOUTH BEND, Indiana (AP) - Lou Holtz is out as football coach at Notre Dame.

Holtz met Monday with Notre Dame athletic director Mike Wadsworth and the Rev. William Beachamp, the university's executive vice president.

The resignation, which takes effect after the season, ends a week a speculation that Holtz's 11th season would be his last.

Among the top contenders to replace Holtz in college football's glamor job are Northwestern's Gary Barnett and Irish defensive coordinator Bob Davie. Others mentioned include LSU's Gerry DiNardo, former UCLA coach Terry Donahue and Wisconsin's Barry Alvarez.

The 10th-ranked Irish (7-2) have two games remaining - at home against Rutgers and at Southern California. A bowl bid, probably the Orange or Fiesta, would close out Holtz's career at Notre Dame.

Holtz is 99-29-2 at Notre Dame - six wins shy of tying Knute Rockne's Irish all-time victory record - and 215-94-7 overall.

SCOREBOARD

Premier League Soccer - Monday's result: Sheffield Wednesday 2 (Orlando Trustfull 63, Basile Carbone 85), Nottingham Forest 0 (halftime 0-0).

NBA - Monday's result: Kings 84, Grizzlies 83.

NHL - Monday's results: Capitals 4, Panthers 2; Bruins 4, Sharks 2; Red Wings 2, Coyotes 2; Flames 5, Rangers 3.

Handwritten signature in a box: *Yehonatan*

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TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1

8:31 News in Arabic 8:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

JORDAN TV

14:05 The Muppet Show 14:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 15:00 Pyramid 15:30 Family programs 16:00 Documentary 16:30 Bizzard Island 17:00 News flash 17:01 The Adventurers and Kelly 18:00 French Programs 19:30 News headlines 18:35 The Four Seasons 20:01 Superstars of Action 20:30 Challenges 21:10 NBA Basketball 22:00 News in English 22:00 Bugs 23:15 Hart to Hart 00:00 Who's the Boss?

CHANNEL 1

15:30 Tinytown Tales 15:50 The Adventures of Duke 16:00 The Mysterious Island 16:25 Zap to Gimmel - joint broadcast with Reshet Gimmel 16:55 Zap to Zionism 16:59 A New Evening 17:34 Zappy Culture - live program on culture for youth 18:15 News in English

CHANNEL 2

15:30 Top Cat 15:30 Scoobydoo 14:00 Echo Point 14:30 Tic Tac - quiz show 15:00 Beethoven - animated series 15:30 Dora's World 15:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:30 SportTV - sports magazine for youth 18:00 Senora 19:00 Full Circle 20:00 News 20:30 What's on 21:05 Life According to Leszko - comedy series featuring Hannah Leszko 21:36 Fatal Money 22:38 Blood Tie - Israeli movie about the 1948 war...

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death. Directed by Sean Curran (pp) 2:30 Diner's Dream - documentary about young women growing up in Samaria and dreaming of Shechem (pp) 3:00 Blue Sky 3:22 Nine to Five 3:45 On the Edge of the Sheet

JORDAN TV

14:05 The Muppet Show 14:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 15:00 Pyramid 15:30 Family programs 16:00 Documentary 16:30 Bizzard Island 17:00 News flash 17:01 The Adventurers and Kelly 18:00 French Programs 19:30 News headlines 18:35 The Four Seasons 20:01 Superstars of Action 20:30 Challenges 21:10 NBA Basketball 22:00 News in English 22:00 Bugs 23:15 Hart to Hart 00:00 Who's the Boss?

MIDDLE EAST TV

7:00 Quantum Shopping 8:00 TV Shop 14:30 The 700 Club 15:00 Larry King 16:00 The A-Team 16:55 Family Challenge 17:45 Family Matters 18:10 Saved by the Bell 18:35 Day and Date 18:30 World News Tonight 20:00 Coach 20:25 Dave's World 20:50 Bob Newhart 21:15 Hopscootch (1980) 23:00 CNN 00:00 TV Shop 2:00 Quantum Shopping 3:00 TV Shop

CABLE

ITV 3 (33)

18:00 Cantones 18:30 Things Which Can't Be Sold 17:15 Discos 18:00 News in Arabic 18:00 Amores 18:00 News in Arabic 18:30 Documentary in Russian 21:40 World's Best Cur Lives 22:15 Curves and Strings - documentary about electric guitars 23:15 Spike Lee

ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Wonder Years 16:00 A Century of Zionism - with Russian subtitles 16:00 Wonder 18:00 Welcome to France 18:30 Family Relations 18:00 Evolutionary Trends 18:30 Point of View 20:01 A New Evening, with Russian subtitles 20:30 Basic Arabic 21:00 Star Trek - The Next Generation 21:45 Pop Songs 22:00 Zombi 22:30 Synopsation 23:30 The Jews of North Africa in the era of colonialism

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Sisters (pp) 9:00 One Life to Live 9:45 The 1900s 10:00 Days of Our Lives (pp) 11:20 Perla Negra (pp) 12:10 Neighbors (pp) 12:35 Dallas (pp) 13:30 Starting at 1:30 14:05 Nursing School 14:40 Seinfeld by Madness, part 1 - miniseries based on a true story. A jealous wife will not let her husband leave her. 22:30 Silk Stalkings 23:20 The Larry Sanders Show 23:45 Melrose Place 24:30 Silk Stalkings 1:20 The Point Man

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Local Hero (1983) (pp) 13:20 New in the Groove 13:30 Dumas in the Deep South (1951) (pp) 15:00 Le Jeune Werther (1992) (pp) 18:30 New in the Cinema 18:50 Sour Sweet (1983) - a sensitive portrayal of an immigrant from the East 19:15 The Last Days of a Cowboy 20:05 Agatha (1979) - a fictional speculation on Agatha Christie's famous 11-day disappearance in 1926. With Vanessa Redgrave, Dustin Hoffman and Timothy Dalton. 100 mins. 22:00 Taking Care of Business (1990) - an ex-con finds the organizer and appointment books of a busy advertising executive and assumes his identity. With Robert De Niro, James Belushi and Charles Grodin. Directed by Arthur Hiller. (107 mins.) 23:50 A Family Divided (1985) (pp)

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS225.00 per line, including VAT. Inclusion every day of the month costs NIS220.00 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM

CONDUCTED TOURS: JERUSALEM UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thurs., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, g, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882819.

HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah Institute's Chertok Windows. Tel. 02-418333, 02-778271.

TEL AVIV

MUSEUMS: TEL AVIV MUSEUM. Following the Shalom Graffi in Yitzhak Rabin Square. The exhibition is a series of educational, artistic and scientific portraits. By a group of Israeli artists. Visual Reality: The domestic and realistic in contemporary Israeli art; Two New Israeli Exhibitions: Portraits "Virtual Reality": Face to Face: Didactic Exhibition, New acquisition: Two Tiffany Stained Glass Windows. HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. Shlomo Ben-David and Amnon Ben-David, New works. Hours: Weekdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meyerhoff Art Education Center, Tel. 6919155-3.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Chai, Straus A, 3, Avotayot, 675-5990; Baisam, Salah el-Din, 827-1028; Shalom, Shushan Road, 681-0108; Der Aidava, Haro's Gate, 628-2058.

Tel Aviv: Pharma Dat Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Gvrol, 549-2040; Kupat Holim Maccabi, 7 HaShma, 546-5558, Tel 3 a.m. Thursday; Pharma Dat Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Gvrol, 549-2040, Tel. midnight; Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 641-3730; London Ministry Superpharm, 4 Sheul Hamelech, 698-0115.

Netanya: Kfar Sava: Shoof, 78 Ahuva, Ratzana, 951068. Netanya: Netanya, 11 Herzl, 822842.

Haifa: Haberony, 5 Haberony, 851-3005. Kfar Sava: Kfar Sava, 681-0108; Moshe Goshen, Kiryat Motzkin, 871-7063. Herzliya: Gal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maslov (for Sderot Hagolim), Herzliya, 954-722, 534-007. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.

Upper Nazareth: Gal Pharm, Lev Har'el, 570-468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Jerusalem: Shalom (Internal, Pediatrics, ENT); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, ophthalmology); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (pediatrics, ENT); Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (surgery); Netanya: Lenidok.

POLICE

100 FIRE 102 FIRST AID 101

Medical help for tourists (in English) 02-2249111. The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning. Eran - Emergency First Aid, 1201, 8282. Jerusalem: 651-3303, Tel Aviv: 548-1111 (children/youth 696-1113), Haifa: 887-2222/3, BeerSheva: 649-4333, Netanya: 882-3110, Karmiel: 939-6770, Kir Sava: 797-4555, Hadera: 948-892.

Wife notices for battered women 02-651-4111, 02-546-1133 (also in Russian), 07-887-5310, 08-955-0506 (also in Amharic).

Ramot Clinic Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv: 523-4818, 544-9181 (men), Jerusalem: 625-5558, Haifa: 859-0533, Eilat: 633-1977. Hadassah Medical Organization - Israel Cancer Association support service 02-624-7676.

1:20 Child's Play 3 (1991) - Klier doll Chucky is resurrected again, the in a military boarding school (85 mins.) 2:50 Silhouette (1994) (pp)

CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons 9:00 Cours Marco 8:45 Pink Panther Show 10:20 The Adventures of Pete and Pete 11:05 Hangin' with Mr. Cooper 11:30 Little University - America 12:00 Sweet Galaxy High 12:30 Hugo 13:00 Surprise Garden 13:10 Avenger Penguins 13:30 Surprise Garden 13:35 Binky Bill 14:00 Simba the Lion King 14:35 Cours Marco 15:00 The Center: of Things 15:15 Pink Panther Show 15:35 The Center of Things 15:50 Mirror, Mirror - new series about a girl who is given a mirror which shows things the way they were 10 years ago. She goes through and meets a girl her age. 16:10 The Farmer of Things 16:35 Welcome Freshmen 17:00 Little University 17:30 Sweet Valley High 18:00 Hugo 18:30 Poppocoma 19:00 Benjamin Blumchen 19:30 Three's Company 20:00 Married with Children 21:00 Poppocoma 20:50 Step by Step 21:15 Lois and Clark

SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 The Assault (Garman, 1986) - Oscar-winning historical saga about a young Dutch boy who saw his family slaughtered by the Nazis, and the impact this has on his subsequent life. (141 mins.) 00:25 A Boy's Happiness (Russian, 1967) - lyrical portrayal of life in a Soviet collective farm and the story of Asya, a cripple who becomes pregnant and stands up to the scorn of her neighbors (93 mins.)

DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University 12:00 National Geographic Explorer (pp) 13:00 Lost Worlds (pp) 14:00 Open University 15:00 National Geographic Explorer (pp) 17:00 Lost Worlds (pp) 18:00 Open University 20:00 Wild South 21:00 Coustau: 22:05 Holy Men of India: Aghori 23:00 Wild South (pp) 00:00 Open University

SUPER CHANNEL

9:00 The First and Best 9:30 Wall Street Morning Report 11:00 European Money Wheel 15:30 Wall Street Morning Report 17:00 MSNBC - The Site 18:00 National Geographic 19:00 The Wine Express 19:30 The Top 20:00 The Selva Scott Show 21:00 Dateline 22:00 Golf: European PGA Tour 23:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno 00:00 Late Night with Conan O'Brien 1:00 Later with Greg Kinnear 1:30 NBC News 2:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno 3:00 MSNBC - Intermight

STAR PLUS

6:00 Graham Kerr's Kitchen 6:30 El TV 7:00 Kate and Allie 7:30 Oprah Winfrey 8:30 Chicago Hope 9:30 Santa Barbara 10:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 11:00 Buniyad 11:30 The Reporter 12:00 Home and Away 12:30 Lost in Space 13:30 Black Stallion 14:00 Kate and Allie 14:30 Graham Kerr's Kitchen 15:30 The Road Show 15:30 News in Hindi 16:30 Small Wonder 16:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 Hindi program 17:30 Star News 18:00 Allo Allo 18:30 Baywatch 19:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 20:00 Santa Barbara 21:00 Beverly Hills 90210 22:00 Pick Fences 23:00 Quincy 00:00 Oprah Winfrey 1:00 Barnaby Jones 2:00 Home and Away 2:30 The Sullivans

CHANNEL 5

6:30 Bodies in Motion 16:00 Bodies in Motion 16:30 Dangerous Games 17:00 Champions' League Soccer 18:00 National League Volleyball 19:00 European Cup Basketball: Gall Elyon vs. Lisbon - live 21:00 Champions' League Soccer - Manchester United vs. Juventus - live 00:15 Blue-White Tennis: Israeli Championships

EUROSPORT

9:30 Triathlon: Koblenz Grand Prix (pp) 10:30 Motorcycle Racing: season roundup (pp) 12:30 Soccer: FIFA Cup - live 15:00 Tennis: ATP Tour, World Championship from Hannover - live 19:00 Alpine Skiing 20:00 Tennis:

ATP Tour, World Championship from Hannover - live 22:00 Figure Skating 00:00 Body Building: European Grand Prix, Italy 1:00 Tennis: look at the ATP 1:30 Horse Racing: World Trophy, qualifying rounds from Ireland

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Asia Club Championship games 7:00 Motorcycle Racing: Supercross race, Spain - roundup 8:00 Sailing Magazine 10:00 Trans World Sports 11:00 Rugby: Argentina vs. South Africa (pp) 12:30 Golf: This is the PGA Tour 13:30 International Motorsports Magazine 14:30 Asia Club Championship games 18:30 Spanish Soccer League 19:30 Sports Illustrated 21:00 Gillette Sport World 21:30 The Kickboxing 22:30 Motor Racing 23:00 Golf: This is the PGA Tour 00:00 Trans World Sport 1:00 Motor Racing: Macao Grand Prix

BBC WORLD

News on the hour 6:05 Wheeler On America (pp) 10:05 Horizon (pp) 11:30 Film 95 (pp) 14:15 Panorama (pp) 15:15 World Business Report 15:30 Asian News 16:30 Business Asia 16:00 Larry King Live 17:30 World Sport (pp) 18:30 Earth Matters 19:30 Q&A 21:00 World Business Today 21:00 National Geographic Explorer (pp) 23:00 European News 23:30 Correspondent 00:00 World Business Today Update 00:30 World Sport 1:00 World News 2:30 Moneyline 3:00 Headline News

CNN INTERNATIONAL

News throughout the day 6:30 Correspondent 7:30 Inside Politics 8:30 Moneyline (pp) 9:30 World Sports 10:30 Showbiz Today 11:30 CNN Newsroom 12:30 World Report 13:30 CNN American Edition 13:45 Q & A 14:30 Asian News 14:30 World Sport 15:00 Asian News 15:30 Business Asia 16:00 Larry King Live 17:30 World Sport (pp) 18:30 Earth Matters 19:30 Q&A 21:00 World Business Today 21:00 National Geographic Explorer (pp) 23:00 European News 23:30 Correspondent 00:00 World Business Today Update 00:30 World Sport 1:00 World News 2:30 Moneyline 3:00 Headline News

SKY NEWS

News on the hour 6:30 CBS Evening News 7:30 ABC World News 11:30 Sky News 12:30 ABC Nightline 13:30 CBS News This Morning - live 16:30 Live from Parliament 18:00 Live at Five 20:30 Tonight with Arden Boulton 21:30 Sportsline 22:30 Business Report 1:30 CBS Evening News 2:30 ABC World News

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

6:06 Morning Concert 9:05 Tchaikovsky: Serenade in C for strings op 48; Mozart: Symphony no. 26 (K.191); Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto no. 2 (Gendelsman, Ceccato); Paganini: Capriccio for cello and piano (Starck, Requejo); Ysaye: Poeme de la nuit for violin and piano; Liszt: Marche Militaire for piano 4 hands; 07:33 14:06 Encore 16:00 Keys 17:00 Sigmund D'Indie: Madrigals; Monteverdi: Ariana's Lament; Bach: Partita no. 5 for harpsichord; Handel: Water Music for winds; Mozart: Violin concerto no. 4 18:00 Chorus: Barcarolle op 60 (Fou Tsong); Grieg: Sonata for cello and piano (Starck, Requejo); Ysaye: Poeme de la nuit for violin and piano; Liszt: Marche Militaire for piano 4 hands; 07:33 14:06 Encore 16:00 Keys 17:00 Sigmund D'Indie: Madrigals; Monteverdi: Ariana's Lament; Bach: Partita no. 5 for harpsichord; Handel: Water Music for winds; Mozart: Violin concerto no. 4 18:00 Chorus: Barcarolle op 60 (Fou Tsong); Grieg: Sonata for cello and piano (Starck, Requejo); Ysaye: Poeme de la nuit for violin and piano; 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J'lem proceeds with plans for 2 neighborhoods

BILL HUTMAN

THE Jerusalem Municipality is moving ahead with plans to construct two new neighborhoods along Emek Arazim, despite the sharp opposition of environmentalists to the development of the last unspoiled stretch of valley at the city's western entrance, city officials said yesterday.

The municipality wants to build one haredi and one secular neighborhood on separate hillsides in the valley, which lies below Mevaseret Zion, Ramot, and the abandoned Arab village of Lifta, the officials said.

They outlined the plans before Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush, who was a guest of city hall yesterday.

Mayor Ehud Olmert rejected the opposition of environmentalists, saying the municipality is sticking to the long-standing policy of not building in valleys, as the new neighborhoods are slated for hillsides, and not the valley itself.

Porush, who was taken by Olmert to an overlook of the Emek Arazim, also expressed support for the project. "I think that we will see here soon - that is, after a couple of years - two beautiful

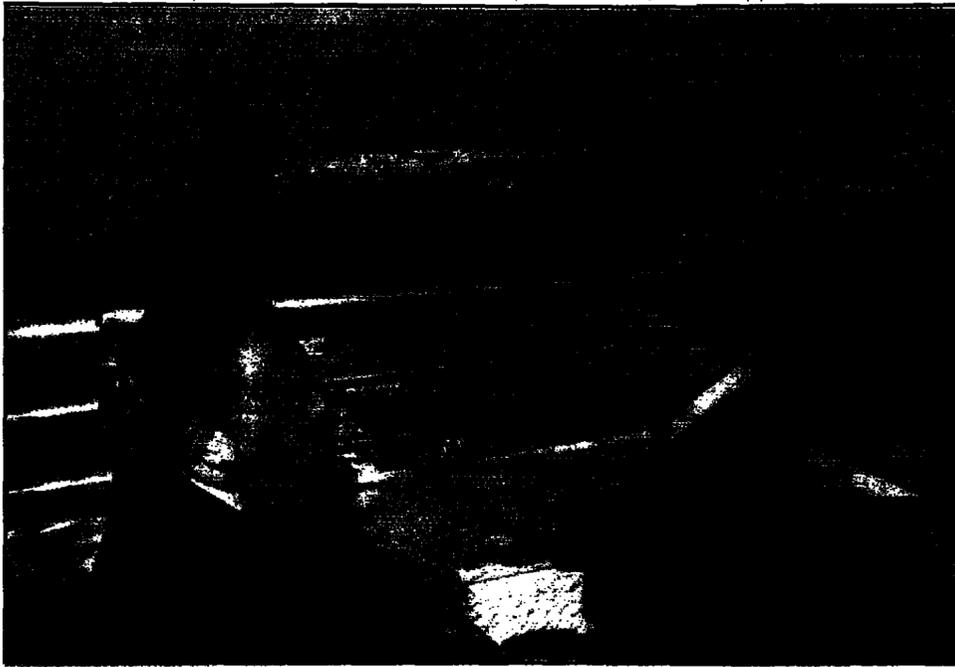
neighborhoods," Porush said.

Olmert said the new neighborhoods are necessary to ease the city's housing shortage. The haredi neighborhood is to include some 2,200 units on Givat Alona, and the secular neighborhood about 3,500 units at Mitzpesh Nakofa, city engineer Uri Ben-Asher said.

The city wants the government to agree to fund the construction of a tunnel under Emek Arazim to protect the natural landscape of the valley, Ben-Asher said. Otherwise, the proposed road will cut straight through the valley, he said.

Ben-Asher said the city is finalizing an environmental study of the Emek Arazim development plans, and that afterwards the plans would be prepared for approval by the various zoning and building boards.

The proposed development of Emek Arazim has been a heated topic in recent years. Environmentalists have fought hard to protect the little remaining green areas in the Jerusalem Corridor, while city officials lobbied for new construction to meet housing needs.



Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert (right) yesterday shows Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush an overview of Emek Arazim at the western entrance to the capital. (Shaul Rubenstein)

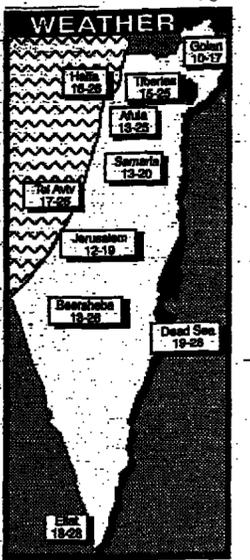
Meanwhile, city officials also revealed yesterday that NIS 800,000 have been budgeted for the planning of the controversial Eastern Gate project, that if

approved would necessitate expropriation of Arab-owned lands.

The Eastern Gate project, which is to include some 2,000 homes for

Jewish families and a technological park, is to cover an area between Pisgat Ze'ev, the Ma'aleh Adumim highway, and A-Zayim village. The project was first proposed in

the late 1980s, when Ariel Sharon served as housing minister. Olmert has repeatedly said he supports moving ahead with construction there as soon as possible.



AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	Notes
Amsterdam	04	05	rain
Berlin	03	05	cloudy
Buenos Aires	14	27	clear
Chicago	02	15	partly cloudy
Copenhagen	04	07	rain
Frankfurt	03	04	rain
Helsinki	03	07	cloudy
Hong Kong	18	21	clear
London	07	14	partly cloudy
Los Angeles	13	18	partly cloudy
Madrid	01	04	rain
Moscow	01	04	partly cloudy
New York	07	13	partly cloudy
Paris	04	06	rain
Rome	12	17	partly cloudy
Sydney	16	21	rain
Tokyo	01	04	rain
Vienna	01	04	rain
Zurich	02	03	rain

Ben-Porat declines to investigate opening of Western Wall Tunnel exit

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset State Control Committee yesterday decided not to force State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat to investigate the opening of a new exit to the Western Wall Tunnel, after Ben-Porat made it clear that she did not want the job.

Six weeks ago, when MK Moshe Shahal (Labor) first proposed asking Ben-Porat to prepare a report on the matter, Ben-Porat said she doubted the matter was appropriate for the state comptroller's scrutiny, because it was too political. After three lengthy committee discussions on the matter, Ben-Porat said she saw no reason to change her mind.

However, she added, the general issue of how any government spends its decisions has always been, and will continue to be, on her agenda.

In light of Ben-Porat's reluctance, opposition MKs - who constitute a majority of the committee - decided not to compel her, though legally the committee can demand that she prepare an opinion on any subject it chooses. Shahal said this decision was due to their "respect and admiration" for Ben-Porat and their firm belief that she will of her own accord investigate any government decision that seems to have been improperly made.

Both Shahal and committee chairman Ran Cohen (Meretz) said that after listening to the testimony of various ministers and representatives of the security services, they were convinced that there had been several serious

flaws in the government's decision-making process. Too many people were neither consulted nor even given sufficient notice of the decision to open an exit to the tunnel, they said, and intelligence assessments were either not sought or ignored. The fact that the army was neither consulted nor informed was particularly severe, they said.

Shahal said a particularly surprising discovery was the major role Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert played in the decision to open the tunnel exit. Olmert was involved in all the discussions on the issue and had pushed for the opening aggressively, he said, while several key ministers, such as Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, claimed to have been left out of the loop.

Suissa hands Har Homa issue to Yishai

BILL HUTMAN

JERUSALEM city officials said yesterday they expect a go-ahead soon for the controversial Har Homa project, following the decision to transfer the final say on the project from Interior Minister Eli Suissa to Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai.

However, project opponents, led by developer David Meir, said that even if Yishai approves the present plan, they will continue their fight against it in the courts and hold up work.

At issue is the plan to build a

new Jewish neighborhood on land annexed to Jerusalem in 1967 on the city's southeastern border.

The interior minister normally has final say on such projects. However Suissa, in his previous post as chairman of the district planning committee, already took a stand in favor of the plan, thus conflict-of-interest considerations forbid him from also giving final approval.

On Monday, ministry officials

met with officials of the State Attorney's Office and decided that Suissa's authority over the Har Homa plan would be transferred to Yishai.

The move must go before the Knesset, and this is likely to happen today, according to a spokesman for Yishai.

City officials said they believe Yishai will sign the plan "within several days," allowing for the start of construction on the new Jewish neighborhood, unless a court decides otherwise.

Winning cards and numbers

The winning numbers in last night's Loto draw were 46, 29, 28, 25, 18 and 14. The additional number was 36.

In yesterday's daily Chance draw the winning cards were the queen of spades, nine of hearts, queen of diamonds and queen of clubs.

Ben Gurion Airport security implore Kahalani to increase manpower

RAINE MARCUS

AIRPORT police and security personnel have a difficult time keeping up with foreigners disguised as tourists, who actually intend to work here illegally, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani was told yesterday during a tour of Ben Gurion Airport.

Airport workers told Kahalani their workload is too great to enable them to make thorough checks on tourists.

Some newspapers recently accused airport personnel, including police, of failing to recognize forged passports and allowing people who come here to work to enter on tourists visas.

One policeman, who has worked at the airport for 15 years, told Kahalani the main problem was with foreign workers, because they are hard to recognize. If passport-control police notice a suspicious person, they call for back up and question the

traveler. But according to the policewoman, representatives of the Interior Ministry should be stationed at the airport to help overworked staff deal with the problem of foreign workers.

Another policewoman, Hadas Sasson, told Kahalani additional police presence is required at the airport, which has its own station. Sometimes, she said, the mostly female passport-control staff feel physically threatened by drunken tourists.

Central District Police Chief Cmdr. Shlomo Aharonishky and the airport director Shaul Hazan hosted Kahalani during his tour of the airport.

Ben Gurion airport services some eight million travelers each year. That causes long queues for passengers who are subject to stringent security procedures. The

Knesset has approved separate security arrangements for Israeli and foreign citizens, but Kahalani said that because of "technical problems" this has not yet been implemented.

Regarding the list of 33 alleged Russian mafiosi who are banned from entry, Kahalani said that police have information about them and their photos and would be able to catch them even if they used forged passports to re-enter Israel.

"There are around 2,500 such persons non grata yearly listed on our computers," said Aharonishky. Fake passports are hard to detect, but police recently purchased a special computerized lighting system that is supposed to detect forgeries, he said.

The equipment, however, is not the most advanced and Kahalani admitted foreigners are becoming more sophisticated. "Forgeries will not stop," he said.

IAF rocket lands near kibbutz children's house

A TARGET-MARKING rocket filled with explosives fell from an air force helicopter onto Kibbutz Gal yesterday morning, where it exploded - harmlessly - near the children's house.

Police sappers quickly arrived and examined the crater left by the rocket, which was up less than 100 meters from the children's house.

It was raining on an air force helicopter, which crashed at the kibbutz an hour after the explosion. Several members died in the accident, but one from the kibbutz was injured.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Soldier treated for rabies

A soldier is being treated in an isolation ward of Hadera's Hillel Yoffe hospital on suspicion he might be suffering from rabies.

Hospital director Dr. Meir Oren said although there was no specific proof, staff were treating the soldier on the basis he had contracted rabies.

The soldier was bitten by an unidentified wild animal while serving on the Golan about a month ago. It is not certain, however, if there is a connection between that incident and his illness.

Oren said the soldier was admitted to the hospital on Saturday evening with neurological symptoms that in the "context of the case gave rise to suspicion that this was rabies."

The soldier, who is in serious condition, is being given anti-viral and anti-bacterial medication.

An IDF spokesman said it was not necessary to isolate other troops from the soldier's unit. David Rudge

Pal supplies contest winner with winning key

The Central District's fraud squad yesterday uncovered a scam in which a Rav Bariah employee helped a friend win a car in a lottery organized by the Rehovot branch of the Shekera Gallery store and his company.

Each participant in the lottery received a key, one of which opened a safe containing the jackpot, a NIS 70,000 car. The employee allegedly supplied his friend with the winning key. The two, who have been released on bail, are expected to be charged soon. Raine Marcus

Woman gives birth by telephone

A 39-year-old Beit Dagan woman gave birth to healthy twin girls at home yesterday - one when she was alone, and the second after a Magen David Adom intensive care unit team arrived.

"The head is already outside. Come quick, I have twins," she screamed into the phone to operator Shaul Salman. The experienced Magen David staffer tried to calm her and give her instructions.

While on the phone, the woman gave a last push and the baby emerged. A few minutes later, the intensive-care team arrived and wrapped the baby. Another baby soon followed. The mother and daughters were brought in good condition to Assaf Harofe Hospital in Tzrifin. Judy Siegel

Safed council calls off strike

The 500 employees of the Safed municipality are to return to work today and schools that were closed for two days will reopen, after the city council called off its week-long strike.

Mayor Moshe Haniya said the decision followed an appeal by Union of Local Authorities Chairman Adi Eldar and the receipt of NIS 4 million from the Interior Ministry.

"The money will help us to pay the September and October salaries of the employees, but will not solve the overall problem," said Haniya, noting that the council's accumulated debts totalled NIS 35m. "We just hope that this is a sign that the government will try and help us resolve the problem in a more significant way," he added. David Rudge

Weizman supports memorial day for Rabin

President Ezer Weizman said yesterday that he favors legislation creating a national memorial day to honor prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Meretz chairman Yossi Sarid and other party activists met with Weizman in Jerusalem last night to present him with a petition signed by some 100,000 citizens calling for a national memorial day and a copy of the party's bill to that effect, which the Knesset will discuss next month.

"This is not a partisan issue, but a public one," Weizman said. "The bill will come up in the Knesset and I expect it will pass. There was an attempt to kill democracy, the attempt failed and must be remembered." Ilim

Danon fired as head of Schneider child hospital

JUDY SIEGEL

PROF. Yehuda Danon, a founder and director-general of the Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel, has been dismissed from his post by Kupat Holim Clalit director Avigdor Kaplan.

Danon, a former chief of the IDF Medical Corps, is due to leave his post at the end of December, but will remain director of the pediatric immunology institute he has headed for years.

Clalit, which owns SCMCI, refused to explain last night why Danon was dismissed. Kaplan was abroad and unavailable for comment. Health fund spokeswoman Rachel Bluestein said only that Danon would no longer be hospital director in January next year.

According to a local newspaper report, there has been an ongoing dispute between Kaplan and Danon over unifying some services between SCMCI and the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus, which is on the same plot

as the six-year-old children's hospital. When established by New York philanthropist Irving Schneider, who donated and collected \$50 million to build the hospital, SCMCI was supposed to be an independent institution. But, according to reports, Kaplan insisted young patients share laboratory and radiology services with Beilinson.

Clalit Chairman Dan Michaeli said the problem was not unification of services but "a lack of trust" between Kaplan and Danon.

Danon, who said he was "quite shocked" to be told by Kaplan last week that he had been fired, maintained that such joint supply of services would save only 10 job slots.

Two years ago, Kaplan announced Danon's dismissal, but Schneider vetoed it, according to sources. It is not known whether Schneider, who visits every two weeks and closely supervises the hospital's operations, wants Danon to go this time.

Young hassidim try to steal Rabbi Nahman's remains from Ukraine

THE mission: secretly remove the remains of Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav, an 18th century sage, from his grave in the Ukrainian town of Uman and bring them to Israel.

The method: dig a tunnel under the cemetery.

That's the plan two young Israeli followers of Rabbi Nahman concocted. But they were caught, detained in the Ukraine and sent back home, a rabbi from the Bratslav group said yesterday.

It began last week when the young men rented a room in a house adjacent to the Uman cemetery, and started digging the tunnel toward the small mausoleum where the black stone tomb is located, said Rabbi Nahman Elhadad of the Bratslav group.

Their plan was discovered before they reached the grave, when their landlord became suspicious about the unusual quantity of dust in the room.

"As he was sweeping the floor his broom fell down a hole under the couch, into the tunnel," said Elhadad, who lives in Jerusalem but was sent to Uman to investigate the incident.

Elhadad said Ukrainian police arrested the two suspects, but released them shortly afterwards "for fear of being accused of anti-Semitism." The two young men then flew back to Israel.

Elhadad said he had the tunnel blocked up with concrete "so that nobody else can even try to disturb Nahman's grave."

Rabbi Nahman died in 1811 and requested in his will to be buried in the old Jewish cemetery in Uman. However, there is a faction of the Bratslav hassidim that believes his remains should be brought to Israel.

Hundreds of members of the Bratslav group from Israel, the US and other Western countries visit his grave every year.

Elhadad refused to disclose the identity of the young men. He said they would be disciplined by the group for their action. "I assume they will be brought before the rabbinical court," he said.

The action caused an outcry among Jewish organizations in the Ukraine and in the Bratslav sect throughout the world. Elhadad said. (AP)

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Levy to submit bill to crack down on traffic offenders

HAIM SHAPIRO

TRANSPORTATION Minister Yitzhak Levy is to submit a bill to crack down on traffic offenders for the approval of the Knesset Finance Committee today.

According to the proposed law, a policeman would be permitted to revoke for 60 days the license of a driver involved in an accident involving injuries or damage and for 90 days when the accident involves a death. Today a police officer may only suspend a license for 30 days.

The law would also grant a physician the right to take a blood sample from a person killed in a road accident to determine the amount of alcohol in the blood. This, it is believed, would help the police to determine the cause of the accident.

In a related development, the increased fines already decided upon are to go into effect on December 6. These include a fine of NIS 1,000 for failing to stop at a red light and a fine of NIS 750 for using a cellular phone, without a special speaker, while driving.

